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Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

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**OUR 1897 DIARY.**

THIS work is now in course of preparation. The publisher wishes us to state that he is now booking advertisement orders for it, and we think it none too soon for business-houses to give him their instructions. We would remind them that THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY has certain points of exceptional merit as an advertising medium to the drug-trade; *first*, all subscribers to this journal at home and abroad receive copies of it; *second*, it is used daily in many thousands of pharmacies throughout the world, therefore the advertisements speak daily; and *third*, the whole of the articles advertised are indexed in The Buyers' Guide—this being regarded by the trade in all its branches as one of the most useful and business-promoting compilations ever attempted.

**Summary.**

MORE drug-contracts are reported on pp. 509-510.

RUSSIA is thinking of reducing her tariff on drugs (p. 512).

PHARMACEUTICAL marriages are again numerous this week (p. 525).

THE *Spectator's* view of American anti-cutting methods is given on p. 522.

SOME new store-prices for medicines and sundries are mentioned on p. 508.

WE print a portrait of Taafe, the chemist's assistant who is wanted (p. 533).

WE report upon the Royal Photographic Society's exhibition, which is good (p. 518).

MR. LIONEL DECLE gives some hints on photographic outfits for tropical countries (p. 518).

GERMAN glassware is likely to be dearer, as the makers are to fix minimum prices (p. 512).

NORWEGIAN pharmacists must henceforth keep two books on pharmacy law in their shops (p. 512).

AN interesting statement regarding the origin of Price's Patent Candle Company is given on p. 508.

FURTHER particulars are given in a note on p. 516 of the dispute with the Holborn Guardians respecting syphons.

THE drug-markets have been much more active this week, and the sales on Thursday were unusually animated (p. 527).

MR. JAMES REID rebukes us for endeavouring to prevent the Dental Association from straining the provisions of the Dentists Act (p. 533).

It is proposed to form a doctors' union for the purpose of securing better remuneration to those in the lower ranks of the profession (p. 521).

CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATIONS are beginning the winter's work. Birmingham, Bradford, Plymouth, and Sheffield supply items this week (pp. 508-510).

WE print more correspondence regarding orange-wine. To one of the letters are appended notes on Mr. Barker Smith's alcoholometric method (p. 532).

A CORRESPONDENT points out that the lot of chemists' assistants in India is not such an unhappy one as has recently been stated, and that the prospects are excellent (p. 532).

WEAK tincture of rhubarb and sweet spirit of nitre, eighteen months old, have brought a grocer and a co-operative store into court under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. In each case a fine was inflicted (p. 513).

MR. JESSE BOOT has appealed to patent-medicine makers and wholesale dealers to discourage the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, and not to raise the prices of their goods. We print Mr. Boot's letter on p. 523, and briefly comment upon it (p. 520).

A PAISLEY unregistered dentist has been before the Sheriff for using dental titles illegally, and while the Sheriff held that he had used the titles, he dismissed the case because it had not been proved that defendant's name was not on the dentists' register (p. 514).

MR. ROWE, a Redruth chemist, who also practises as a doctor, visiting patients, has had to give evidence before a coroner respecting one of his patients. The Coroner advised the jury to return a verdict of manslaughter against him, but they preferred to wait until Thursday to hear the result of a *post-mortem* examination (p. 524).

A SWANSEA chemist has been fined under the Merchandise Marks Act for selling a syphon of potash-water which bore on the metal top the name of a firm who did not fill it. Another dealer has been fined for selling champagne cider contained in a soda-water bottle branded with the name of a chemist not the maker of the beverage (p. 513).



## English News

*The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.*

### Store Prices.

The Army and Navy Stores announce the following alterations in prices since the issue of their March price-list:—Reduced: Beetham's corn-plaster, Brompton cough-specific, Colman mustard oil, Fenning's cooling and worm powders, Fraser's tablets, Owbridge's lung-tonic, vaseline (veterinary), Kay's essence of linseed, all to 9½d.; Brandreth's pills to 8d., Carter's nerve-pills and Towle's pills to 10d., Bravais' iron, Koko hair-wash, and Roger & Gallet's eau-de-toilette to 1s. 11d., phenacetin tabloids and Schieffelin Bland's pills to 1s. 6d., Pepper's tonic to 2s. 9d., Du Barry's food (1-lb.) to 2s. 10d., Guy's tonic to 2s. 2d., Hippocaea to 1s. 8d. and 3s. 4d., Warner's safe cure to 3s. 8½d. Advanced: Cream of tartar to 1s. 2d., Davis's pain-killer to 1s. 4d., Hofi's malt-extract to 1s. 3d., Stern's pumiline liniment to 1s. 8d., Taylor's cimoline to 2s. 3d., Pasta Mack to 1s. 10d. Discontinued: Dredge's heal-all and Davis's caloric. Additions to Stock: Bishop's effervescent piprazine (½-lb.) 10s., boracic ointment 5d. pot, Café Zylak 2s. 2d., electrozone 10d., iron jelloids 1s. 4½d., 2s. 5d., sugar of milk (1 lb. tins) 1s. 1d., glycerine suppositories, P., D. & Co., 8d.

### Devonport Mourned.

The Plymouth and District Chemists' Association have lost their solicitor, Mr. T. W. Martyn, Mayor of Devonport. He died on September 23, after an illness of only two days. Mr. Martyn took a keen interest in the Association, at a special meeting of which, on September 25, a vote of condolence was passed. The President (Mr. C. J. Park) and Secretary (Mr. James Cocks), with many chemists, attended the funeral.

### The Bradford Beginning.

The members of the Bradford and District Chemists' Association held their first annual meeting at the Royal Hotel, Bradford, on Wednesday, September 23, Mr. Edward Mackay (President) in the chair. The committee, in their report, congratulated the members on the success of the Society. There are names of thirty-five members on the books, and thirty-seven have paid subscriptions (19/13s. 6d.). The Council have met ten times, the members thrice, and there was the big anti-cutting meeting in May. A balance of 10l. 5s. 2d. remains to commence the work of another year. On the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Hy. Dunn, and supported by Mr. Rimmington, the reports were adopted. Two alterations in the rules were then made, and the following office-bearers were re-elected:—President, Mr. E. Mackay; Vice-presidents, Messrs. George Rimmington and Hy. Dunn; Treasurer, Mr. R. W. Silson; and Secretary, Mr. S. Norman Pickard, 74 Manningham Lane. There were twelve candidates for six seats on the Council, and a ballot being taken, the following were elected:—Messrs. J. A. Mitchell, J. M. Newbould, H. Rogerson, F. K. Taylor, A. H. Waddington, and D. W. R. Wilson. The President was heartily thanked for his services; this on the motion of the Secretary, seconded by the Treasurer.

### Price and Penley.

Last week Price's Patent Candle Company invited a party of the chemists who were attending the British Association meeting to visit their works at Bromborough Pool. When it came to the toasts after luncheon, Mr. T. C. Wright, chairman of the company, made an interesting speech, replying to the toast of himself and company. He said the company was established by Mr. William Wilson and his two sons, of whom only one—Mr. George Ferguson Wilson—now survived. They might ask where the name of Price came in. The fact was there never was a Mr. Price connected with it.

Edward Price was a sort of "Charley's Aunt," and he was glad it was still running. When Mr. Wilson found the business too large for his private means, he took, with others, a Mr. Benjamin Lancaster into partnership. When they cast about for a name for the company, they, being Russian brokers, did not wish to associate their names with the making of candles, but Mr. Lancaster had an aunt, Mrs. Price, and they called the firm "E. Price & Co." When the firm became bigger they changed the "E." to "Edward." People of the name of Price had assured him their grandfather or uncle was the founder of Price's Candle Company, but he had to disillusionise them. Since it became a joint-stock company it had continued to improve in business, and even grew younger and more vigorous year by year. When he looked back upon his boyhood, and recollected that then he snuffed candles with his fingers—and afterwards wiped them upon his trousers—he thought what a stride had been made in candle-making since those days. But their manufactures went far beyond candle-making. The Bromborough Pool works were only an auxiliary factory, their chief place being at Battersea. Their trade-mark of a ship under full sail was copied from the menu-card of an occasion when he had the honour of dining with Mr. W. H. Smith, the First Lord of the Admiralty. The whole of Bromborough Pool belongs to the company, and with the works covers about sixty acres of land. They had a beautiful chapel, though a small one, and maintained their own chaplain. The recreation-ground was one of the finest in the country. They would see a number of the pensioners, the majority of whom were at least seventy years of age, and few of whom had served the company for less than five-and-thirty years. He agreed with the directors that men who had served the company so long and faithfully deserved a pension in their old age.

### Beer for Burnham.

At Lutchington Licensing Sessions Mr. H. T. Cox, solicitor, applied on behalf of Mr. Stephen Steele, chemist and druggist, Burnham, for an additional beer-dealer's licence for his shop at Burnham. In making the application Mr. Cox stated that a similar licence had been held by his predecessor (Mr. Ellis). Mr. W. J. Gray, solicitor, Chelmsford, opposed the application on behalf of local beer brewers and dealers; and the Bench, in refusing the licence, expressed the opinion that there were already sufficient facilities in Burnham.

### Clinton Committed.

At the Lambeth Police Court on Friday, September 25, Harry Clinton, the young traveller, who under circumstances reported last week was charged with stealing a sum of money from his employer, Mr. Underwood, chemist, Kennington Road, S.E., was committed for trial at the South London Sessions. Meanwhile he may get out on 25% bail.

### Chlorate Killed Him.

At St. Helens, last week, there was an inquest regarding the death of James Rose, a chlorate-miller, employed at the Hardshaw Brook works of the United Alkali Company. Deceased, on September 5, was breaking lumps of chlorate of potash with a wooden mallet on a table in the grinding-house, when the chlorate ignited and set the sieve on fire. He picked up the sieve and ran out with it, when his clothes caught fire. He jumped into the water-butt, but his injuries proved fatal. Mr. Frant, assistant Government inspector, said the occurrence was a very exceptional one, and so far as statutory regulations were concerned there was no fault at all to be found with the employers. He had made careful experiments with the chlorate, and had failed to reproduce the explosion. He suggested that the men's overalls should be washed frequently, as required by the special rules. It transpired that some men had a habit of tucking the smocks inside their trousers, which formed a ridge for the chlorate dust to accumulate in, and deceased had worn his smock in that way. The manager of the works, in reply to the foreman of the jury, said he would undertake to see that the men wore the smock loosely down instead of putting it inside the belt.

### Early Closing.

The chemists and druggists of Reading, in conjunction with the other tradesmen of the town, have decided to close their shops at 7 P.M. each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

from November to March, with the exception of Christmas week. This comes in force on November 2.

#### A Coroner on Condensed Milk.

Mr. Coroner G. W. Hillman held an inquest at Hove (Sussex), on September 25, relative to the death of a two months' old infant, who had died from starvation owing to injudicious feeding. It appeared that the child had been fed on condensed milk and biscuits, and only weighed one ounce under 5 lbs. Dr. Greenyer stated that there was not sufficient nutriment in condensed milk to keep a child alive, and it was nothing less than a crime to feed so young a child on biscuits. The Coroner observed that the child might as well have been fed on brickdust and sawdust as upon biscuits and condensed milk and water. The jury returned a verdict of death from starvation.

#### Carbolic Catastrophes.

An elderly gentleman committed suicide at Walworth last week by drinking carbolic acid. He was discovered sitting in a chair dying, but holding an infant in his arms.

Catherine Robertson (35), a married woman living with her husband at Rotherhithe, but recently been released from Claybury Asylum, drank carbolic acid on Wednesday last week and died.

Charles Reading (33), a Hoxton hairdresser, who had been ailing for years, drank carbolic acid last week. His wife had a hard struggle with him while he had the poison-cup in his hand, but he overpowered her. He died in the Metropolitan Hospital two hours after admission.

#### Wine-licences

have been granted to the following chemists:—

Mr. John P. Tomlin, 1 Victoria Parade, Torquay.

Mr. B. Butler, chemist and druggist, 129 London Road, Reading.

Mr. E. R. Biggleston, 11 Mercery Lane, and Messrs. E. & C. Bieg, St. George's Street, Canterbury. In these cases the Justices wanted to make the licences for medicated wine only, but were informed that there was no such licence.

#### District Council Drug-contracts.

Bexley.—Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Co. for manganate of soda in 5-cwt. barrels at 18s. 6d. per cwt.; the Sanitas Company (Limited): sanitas powder, 12s. 6d. per cwt.; sanitas fluid, 8s. per dozen pint bottles; sanitas crude fluid, 4s. per gallon; sanitas soap, 30s. per cwt.; carbolic acid, in 8-oz. bottles, 6s. per dozen.

Dartford.—Messrs. Horrell & Goff, chemists, High Street, Dartford, for disinfectants for twelve months, at 40l. 7s. 10d. Mr. W. Tacker, chemist, Spital Street, Dartford, quoted 46l. 7s.

#### Workhouse Contracts.

Banbury.—Mr. S. S. Linnett, chemist and druggist, Banbury, is to supply single trusses at 2s. 6d. and double trusses at 3s. 6d. each; and Mr. J. M. Wilks supplies disinfecting-powder at 18s. per cask, saltpetre at 4d. per lb., carbolic soap at 4½d. per lb., arrowroot at 10d. per lb., and brimstone at 4d. per lb.

Caistor.—Messrs. Farlow & Son, ground ginger at 1s. 2d. per lb.; Mr. R. J. Watson, arrowroot at 9d. per lb.; Mr. C. Winter, linseed-meal at 2s. per stone, and petroleum at 7d. per gallon.

Chard.—Mr. W. B. Churchouse, chemist and druggist, Chard, to supply cod-liver oil at 1s. per pint, Howard's quinine at 1s. 5d. per oz., single trusses at 1s. 2d. each, and double trusses at 2s. each.

East Preston (Sussex)—Mr. G. T. Groom, Littlehampton, has obtained the contract for night-lights, 4s. per dozen boxes; soda, 2s. 9d. per cwt.; yellow soap, 19s. 6d. per cwt.; soft soap, 16s. 6d. per cwt.; arrowroot, 4d. per lb.; black pepper, 3d. per lb.; and carbolic soap, 16s. 9d. per cwt.

Fresham.—Messrs. Warrington & Co. to supply arrowroot at 4d. per lb. and saltpetre at 3d. per lb.

High Wycombe.—Mr. C. W. Downswell, chemist and

druggist, High Wycombe, to supply cod-liver oil and quinine.

Hollingbourne (Maidstone).—Messrs. T. Stonham & Son, chemists and druggists, 70 and 71 Bank Street, Maidstone, Kent, are to supply drugs to the value of 8l. 4s. 9d. Mr. Oliver, chemist, West Malling, tendered at 9l. 9s. 2d.; and Mr. Corfe, chemist, Maidstone, at 10l. 5s. 11d.

Isle of Wight.—Mr. Percival, of London, supplies sanitas at 1l. 10s. 6d. per cwt., carbolic soap at 14s. 6d. per cwt., and pearl barley at 9s. 6d. per cwt.; Messrs. Lomas & Slater, linseed, 10s. 6d. per cwt.; the New Health Soap Company, soft soap, at 12s. 6d. per cwt.; Messrs. McDougall Brothers, carbolic soft soap, 19s. per cwt.; Mr. J. J. Rigby, carbolic hard soap, 18s. per cwt.

Runcorn.—Messrs. Speakman Brothers, of Runcorn, to supply drugs.

Stonbridge.—Mr. T. Smith to supply cod-liver oil, 8s. per gallon; castor oil, 3s. 6d. per gallon; Epsom salts, 1d. per lb.; linseed-meal, 2d. per lb.; lint 1s. 6d., Gamgee tissue 1s. 10d., and gutta serena tissue 8s. per lb.

Wellington (Salop).—Messrs. Ison & Co., chemists and druggists, to supply cod-liver oil and trusses.

West Malling.—Mr. R. B. Stedman, pharmaceutical chemist, to supply quinine at 3s. 6d., cod-liver oil at 1s., sanitas at 7d., carbolic acid at 1s. 4d., and Condy's fluid at 8½d.

#### Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

At a meeting of the Council of this Association held on Tuesday (Mr. Jeffry Poole in the chair), the programme of the 1896-97 session was arranged to include the President's (Mr. F. J. Gibson) address, four nights for reading of papers, two social evenings, and, if possible, the annual ball. Mr. J. C. Mackenzie was appointed Assistant-Secretary. The following resolution was also passed:—"That the appointment of local secretaries by the P.A.T.A. should be left as far as possible in the hands of the local Pharmaceutical Association."

#### Acid Accident.

One day last week Mr. Frederick Day, employed in Messrs. Tomlinson & Hayward's chemical-works in Mint Lane, Lincoln, was drawing off some acid from a large cister into a small vessel, when it spurted up in all directions, some falling upon his face. He sustained rather serious burns.

#### Food Faulty.

At this week's meeting of the Camberwell Vestry, Dr. Frank L. Teed, the analyst, reported that during the past three months he had analysed some sixty-seven samples of foods and drugs submitted to him by the inspectors, and found that eleven of them contravened one or other of the three Acts of Parliament. In some comments on the subject of further legislation, the doctor remarked that the country was awaiting the results which should follow the report of the Select Committee on Food and Drugs.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Bermondsey Vestry, the Sanitary Committee reported that since the date of the last meeting no fewer than thirty-nine samples of food and drugs had been subjected to analysis, and out of the whole number only four were found to be genuine. Proceedings had been taken against the vendors in most cases, and fines amounting, with costs, to 55l. had been imposed.

#### Plymouth Progress.

The fourth annual business meeting of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association was held in the Foresters' Hall, Plymouth, on Wednesday, September 30, Mr. C. J. Park presiding. The report of the committee dealt with the work of the year in respect to trade interests, education, and sociality, the committee stating that the year had been one of unqualified success, with every hope of a prosperous future. In matters educational they are making a departure of a satisfactory kind by the institution of weekly classes under Messrs. Johnson and Reade, to which previous reference has been made in this journal. In order to stimulate education, and to celebrate the election of Mr. Park as a Pharmaceutical Councillor, the Secretary desires to raise a sum of ten guineas, to be given to any member who might be successful in gaining the

Bell scholarship. Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. have sent a cheque for 2*l.* 2*s.* to this fund. The membership of the Society has increased to 113 during the year, and the Treasurer finished with a balance of 4*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, having commenced the year with a sum of 1*l.* 4*s.*, and received 18*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* in subscriptions. Appended to the committee's report was one by Mr. Oswald A. Reade, who conducted the botanical rambles during the summer, at which an average of six students attended out of a class of ten.

The reports were adopted, and Mr. H. S. Wellcome was elected an honorary member. A discussion on the duties of local secretaries was initiated by Mr. Netting, especially in regard to the infringement of the Act, and it was thought that information should be sent straight to Mr. Bremridge. Messrs. Hunt (Plymouth) and Maitland (Stonehouse) were nominated as local secretaries. The following office-bearers were elected:—President, Mr. George Breeze, J.P. (Devonport); Vice-Presidents, J. Harvey Bailey (Plymouth), Martin Johnson (Devonport), F. Maitland (Stonehouse district); Committee, Messrs. A. D. Breeze, W. H. Woods, C. T. Weary, J. Swainson, H. Davey, and O. A. Reade; Junior Section, J. A. Buckley (Secretary) and E. A. Hodge (Committee); Auditors, W. H. Austin and S. Perkins (Torpoint); Treasurer, W. Condy U'Ren (Plymouth); Secretary, James Cocks (Stonehouse). An interview with the directors of C.A.M.W.A.L. was reported by Mr. James Maurice, the object being to get them to establish a depot at Plymouth. A guarantee of 1,000*l.* trade was required. It was agreed to make inquiries as to the ideas of the chemists generally. The proposal to form a pharmacy club was also discussed, and approved by all. It was referred to a committee to arrange the details. The annual dinner is fixed for October 14.

#### A Chemist Acquitted of Blame.

About a month ago, George William Youngman (16) had a tooth extracted by Mr. R. Betts, chemist, Framlingham, and he died from blood-poisoning last week. An inquest was held by Mr. Walter Brooke on Monday, when Dr. Drew deposed that when he was called to see the deceased about three weeks or a month ago he was very ill, suffering from shock and feverishness, and being generally out of order. Deceased was suffering from blood-poisoning. A sister of deceased deposed that he had cut his gums with his pocket-knife to make them bleed. Mr. Betts remembered extracting the tooth. There was no trouble about it. The gums were much swollen, and he noticed an incised wound around the tooth  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch long, and a transverse cut. He gave the deceased a bottle of quinine and iron, containing in each dose 5 gr. of citrate of quinine and iron. The jury found a verdict of death from natural causes, adding a rider that no blame was attached to Mr. Betts.

#### Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society.

The first meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday evening, when officers for the coming year were elected as follows:—President, Mr. H. E. Ibbitt; Vice-Presidents, Mr. J. Austen and Mr. S. T. Rhoden; Treasurer, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme; Honorary Secretary, Mr. G. Squire.

#### Chlorodyne or Heart-disease?

An inquest was held at the Cameron Arms Hotel, Swansea, on Monday, touching the death of Edward Martin Dadd, consulting engineer, in the employ of Messrs. John White & Co., shipowners, of London. Deceased was found dying in his hotel bedroom. Early that morning he had called up Mr. James Hughes, chemist, and, stating that the ship's medicine-chest was incomplete, asked for two bottles of chlorodyne, which were supplied to him. Dr. Forsyth deposed that death was due to valvular disease of the heart, accelerated by chlorodyne. The jury returned a verdict accordingly.

#### Sudden Death of a Chemist's Housekeeper.

Mary Elizabeth King, a widow (59), housekeeper to Mr. W. J. Talintyre, chemist and druggist, 144 Stroud Green Road, N., was found by the message-boy on the floor of her bedroom, black in the face. Mr. Talintyre at once gave her some sal volatile, and sent for Dr. Samuel Craig, but she died before his arrival. An inquest was held last week, and Dr. Craig reported, as the result of an autopsy of the body, that he had discovered the heart to be very much enlarged. Verdict accordingly.



## Irish News

*The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.*

#### [Union Drug-contracts.]

Bandon.—Messrs. Hunt & Co., druggists, Dublin, have secured the contract at 33 per cent. lower than the Cork tenders.

Birr.—The Guardians having decided that Mr. H. P. Gildon is eligible to tender, he and Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, P. A. Leslie & Co., Dublin, the Apothecaries' Hall, the Chemical and Drug Company, Fanning & Co., Harrington & Co. (Limited), Cork, and Smith & Sheppard, Dublin, have sent in tenders. Those of Messrs. Smith & Sheppard, Harrington & Co., and Fanning & Co. have been rejected as informal, and the remaining five tenders have been handed to the Clerk to compare the prices in each, and report on which is the lowest.

Mullingar.—The Guardians have considered who should succeed Mrs. English, the ex-drug contractor. The following drug-houses tendered:—Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin; Leslie & Co., Dublin; the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin; the Cork Chemical and Drug Company (Limited); and Mrs. English. Mrs. English's tender was declared the highest, and the Cork Chemical and Drug Company the lowest; and although one Guardian wished to give the contract to the highest tenderer, the Cork Company got it.

Oughterard.—Messrs. Harrington & Son, chemists, Cork, and Smith & Sheppard, Dublin, have been appointed contractors for the supply of medicines and surgical appliances respectively.

Waterford.—At a meeting of the Waterford Dispensary Committee last week the following report, by Mr. Courtenay Croker, auditor, was submitted:—

The practice of getting medicines from the local houses is altogether regular, and, commencing as it did a short time since with a few items, it has now reached quite a large sum, and the medical officers have also sent prescriptions to be compounded. Patent and proprietary medicines, especially pills, have been bought in considerable quantities, and have not been got on the prescribed requisition-form. If medical officers require any medicine not comprised in the list issued by the Local Government Board, a distinct requisition for it should be made by them through the committee of management, stating the circumstances which are considered to render the requisition necessary. All drugs should be obtained from the contractor, and not from local chemists. If the regulations of the Local Government Board in regard to this matter be not strictly adhered to, I shall be compelled to take action by way of surcharge.

The Guardians seemed to take this report amiss, and Dr. Mackesy remarked: "Faith, if it goes on like this, he may come down and do the business himself, for people are not going to be coming here to do it if they must do it at a risk."

#### Twenty Shillings in the Pound.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, Dublin, before Judge Miller, the case of John Darcy, formerly trading as a chemist and druggist at Lower Clanbrassell Street, Dublin, came up again for hearing. The bankrupt went to Cape Town in April last with 130*l.*, but was robbed there. He now appeared in court, and stated that grief at the death of a child had driven him out of the country. His estate, which he thought would have realised over 20*s.* in the pound, produced 15*s.* in the pound. The examination was adjourned.

#### A Matter of Degrees.

At the Dungarvan Petty Sessions last week, a case under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act in respect to a sample of whisky was decided. Sir Charles Cameron, Dublin, city analyst, had reported that the whisky was 28° u.p., the Government limit being 25° u.p. The Bench in the mean-

time sent the sealed sample to Somerset House, and the report of this department was to the effect that the sample was of 22.8° u.p., or 2.2° stronger than it might be according to law. The Court dismissed the prosecution with 17. costs.

#### Personal.

Sir Henry Cochrane, head of the firm of Cantrell & Cochrane, chemists, Dublin, has been nominated by a large section of the ratepayers as a Commissioner for the Township of Bray.

#### The Enniskillen Case.

Samuel Webb, the chemist's assistant who attempted to commit suicide, as reported in our last issue, was, at the Petty Sessions on Monday, committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions. The prisoner said he could not find bail in Enniskillen, and was removed in custody.



## Scotch News

The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

#### The Position of Pharmacy.

The *Glasgow Herald* has to thank the drug-trade for much good copy recently. "The Position of Pharmacy" has provided them with it, and there seems no end to the discussion. The points of the discussion are that the Pharmacy Act is a harsh law, the Pharmaceutical Society a trades' union, chemists are respectable swindlers, and drug-stores "a boon and a blessing to men." Mr. Alexander Laing, A.P.S., has made an effective reply.

#### Glasgow Students.

The students attending the Glasgow and West of Scotland School of Pharmacy have formed an association for the purpose of reading papers, &c. They commenced the session on September 21 with a lecture by Mr. Gilbert Simpson on "The Life History of Fungi, Mosses, and Ferns"; and they liked it.

#### By Heating the Turpentine.

Mr. William McPhail, chemist to Messrs. Inglis & Wakefield (Limited), Busby, was dissolving some caoutchouc in spirit of turpentine, on Thursday last week, when the liquid ran over into the fire, causing an explosion. Mr. McPhail was badly burned about the face and neck.

#### Personal.

Mr. George A. Senter, Jacob Bell scholar and Pereira medallist, has joined Mr. W. B. Cowie, at the Edinburgh Central School of Pharmacy, as lecturer on materia medica and botany.

"As it visited you" seemed to be the request, but a paper memorandum was produced which said, "Assit Visitu Pills," and those old stagers for wind were supplied.

APENTA WATER is the subject of an article by Dr. Jnlins Althaus in the *British Medical Journal* last week. In the course of it the writer says: "It is useful to know that in cases where we are obliged to give morphine in somewhat considerable quantities, either *per os* or hypodermically, as, for instance, in the gastric crises of tabes and in severe and obstinate forms of neuralgia, Apenta has an excellent effect in neutralising the prejudicial action of morphine on the hepatic functions. In some of these cases I had previously given small doses of mercury, podophyllin, and other drugs and mineral waters for that purpose, but none of them equalled the beneficial effects of Apenta in this respect."

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

UNVEILING PASTEUR'S STATUE.—Monday last, September 28, was the anniversary of Pasteur's death, but it was on the preceding day (Sunday) that M. Tony Noel's statue of the savant was unveiled at Alais (Gard) by M. Duclaux, Director of the Pasteur Institute at Paris. The statue, already described in this journal, is erected in the Place de la Maréchale, in front of Vauban's obsolete fortifications. Madame Vallery-Radot, Pasteur's daughter, was present with her husband, whose name will be familiar to Pasteur's admirers as the author of the biography of his father-in-law, which he entitled "History of a Savant: by an Ignorant." The strains of a military band and a salute of cannon having greeted the unveiling of the bronze, MM. Duclaux and De Ramel made much-applauded speeches, and a deputation of female silk spinners (Alais is the centre of the silkworm-raising industry) strewed flowers around the base of the statue, and presented a bouquet to Madame Vallery-Radot.

THE FOLLOWING DAY (Monday) Abbé de Sauvage's monument was unveiled. A native of Alais, this scientist spent (like Pasteur) five years studying the diseases of the silkworm (1752-56). His book is still a standard work, and Pasteur quoted from it. He was likewise clever in physics and botany, and corresponded with Buffon and Linnæus. His brother François, a neat and fluent writer, was nicknamed "the love-doctor," having taken his M.D. degree at Montpellier with a thesis "on the possibility of curing love by herbal remedies," which created some curiosity (not to say amusement) last century.

DULL TIMES.—Paris is ever empty at this time of year, but the close of the scholastic vacation, the wettest September registered for over a half-century, and the Czar's visit are at length bringing people back to town. Pharmacists and tradesmen in the better part of Paris will doubly welcome the return of their regular *clientèle*, for the floating hotel population seems less numerous and liberal this year. The wealthy American's comparative absence is doubtless to be accounted for by the Presidential election in the States, but the European crowned heads and aristocracy have been also less numerous this year than last. The professors at the School of Pharmacy, however, prolong their well-earned rest until early in November. M. Planchon is at Montpellier, where he spent the first half of his life and where he has many relations and friends, for his native village is hard by. M. Moissan has sailed for America, M. Jungfleisch was in Germany, M. Dorveaux in Lorraine, while the rest will be found ruralising, like M. Villiers, or at the seaside, or in the mountains.

THE PHARMACISTS, and there are several, who run up daily to business by the Western line, may be occasionally noticed to salute a clean-shaven, white haired old gentleman with a gamebag and guncase, whom they recognise as their ancient mentor, M. Chatin, ex-director of the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy, and now Vice-President of the Academy of Sciences. To see the Grand Old Man of pharmacy thus starting for a day's shooting at 83 years of age makes one think of M. Berthelot's remark that scientific study need not necessarily impair bodily vigour, and very often has the contrary effect if judiciously carried out.

"EASY CREDIT."—M. Belières, Rue de la Chapelle, Paris, the well-known member of the Council of the Pharmacists' Syndicate, was one of the chemists whose indiarubber stamp was utilised for fraudulently obtaining goods from a wholesale firm, as reported in the *C. & D.* of August 15. He refused to pay the bill sent in for the articles, as he had neither ordered nor received them. The drug-firm, Messrs. Marchand, Monod, Bartholin & Co., took proceedings to enforce payment, but the Syndicate took up the case for their councillor. Marchand & Co. were nonsuited and condemned to pay costs.

"M. BAY SEED"—for toothache. "Dyerear Mixtnre" was not far off it. " $\frac{3}{4}$ d. diagonal," "Spair Mascilla" (an excellent attempt), "tincture of talloo," and "washer chips" come to us from the Derby district.

## Foreign and Colonial News.

**THE JAVA QUININE-WORKS.**—The machinery for quinine manufacture in the Java quinine-works is now being erected, and it is said that the concern will shortly be ready to begin working.

**THE JAVA BOTANIC GARDENS.**—The Governor-General of the Dutch Indies has authorised the establishment at the Botanic Gardens at Buitenzorg, near Batavia, of a research-laboratory, at a cost of about 1,200*l*.

**THE GERMAN APOTHEKER-VEREIN.**—The membership of the German Pharmaceutical Society at the date of the publication of the last annual report was 3,336. The receipts amounted to 45,446*m*.; expenses of management absorbed 24,875*m*., including 775*m*. for the General Congress at Augsburg.

**PROJECTED REDUCTION OF THE RUSSIAN TARIFF ON DRUGS.**—It is said that the Russian Ministry of Finance are considering the advisability of almost immediately reducing or abolishing altogether the Customs duties on all drugs and medicines which are either not at all produced in Russia or only produced in insufficient quantities.

**BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1897.**—It is now definitely decided that an International Exhibition is to be held at Brussels in 1897. It will be opened on April 24, and all exhibits must be installed by April 15. Information may be had by intending British exhibitors from the Executive Commissioner, British Section, 35-6 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.

**ALLOOCK'S PLASTERS.**—We recently mentioned that the American makers of these plasters had reduced the price from 25*c*. each to 15*c*., or two for 25*c*., and they stamped those new prices on them. In consequence of the representations of the trade, they have gone back to the old figures, and are exchanging the 15*c*. article for plasters without the price on the wrapper.

**THE PRAGUE EXHIBITION.**—The second International Pharmaceutical Exhibition at Prague was closed on September 21 with some official ceremonial by the Stadtholder of Bohemia, Count Coudenhove. It has been very successful, 100,799 paying visitors having been admitted. The exhibition, which has yielded a small net profit to the originators, was open thirty-seven days, and the average number of paying visitors was 2,719 per day.

**A BLACKMAILING PHARMACIST.**—Eduard Molenbroek, an Africaner pharmacist, formerly employed with well-known chemists' firms in Johannesburg and Krugersdorp, was, on August 23, sentenced to twelve months' hard labour at Johannesburg for extorting money. Molenbroek's system was to visit the houses of loose women in Johannesburg, order wine, and, when that was forthcoming, pretend to be a detective and demand a bribe for not proceeding against his victims for infringement of the licensing-laws.

**THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN SODA SYNDICATE.**—The manufacturers of soda salts in Austro-Hungary have taken into their syndicate the soda-works in Bosnia, who have hitherto vigorously competed with them. It is understood that the Bosnian factory will be allowed an output of a thousand waggon-loads a year, and in order to make up for the loss entailed by the inclusion of the works in question in the syndicate, it is proposed to advance by 1*li*. per 100 kilos. the price of ammonia, of Le Blanc soda crystals, and of caustic soda.

**PHARMACY IN NORWAY.**—A ministerial order has been issued in Norway, directing that a copy of all the laws and regulations pertaining to Norwegian pharmacy shall be kept in every chemist's shop in the country. It appears, however, that there are only two books published which deal with this subject—viz., one by Esmarch, on Norwegian medical legislation, revised up to 1890, and another, on pharmacy law, by Military-apotheker Nyegard, published in 1877. Two pharmacists have taken this opportunity of writing a supplement to both books, embracing the whole of the laws and regulations concerning pharmacy published from 1877 up to the present time.

**BUSINESS CHANGE.**—Mr. J. Valentine Booth, chemist and druggist, has taken over the drug-business of Messrs. Maynard & Co. (Limited), Taiping, Perak, Confederate Malay States, and is carrying it on as "The Larut Pharmacy." Mr. Booth was formerly in Salford, Manchester.

**SULPHATE OF COPPER IN ITALY.**—The importation of sulphate of copper into Italy is increasing year by year, as the advantages of the article, in combination with lime, as a vine-dressing are becoming better known. In 1895 the imports into Brindisi amounted to 220 tons only, but during the first five months of 1896 no fewer than 600 tons were imported into that place. It is said that the practical results observed last year have caused those vineyard-owners who had been incredulous of the virtue of the article to become converted to its use. The proportion of sulphate in the wash is 1 per cent. for prevention and from 3 per cent. to 5 per cent. for curative purposes.

**COCOA-ADULTERATION IN HOLLAND.**—Two well-known Dutch analysts have sent for signature to the cocoa-manufacturers in Holland a memorandum, which they are requested to subscribe and to forward to the Dutch Parliament. The memorandum states that serious injury is done to the reputation of genuine Dutch cocoa by the prevailing practice of offering for sale as cocoa powder a mixture of ground cocoa and flour. Parliament is asked to make it an offence to sell anything except pure cocoa under the name of cocoa, and to decree that all parcels containing mixtures shall bear in plain figures an indication of the percentage of the adulterants. It is said that the great majority of the Dutch cocoa-manufacturers have signed the memorandum, which is about to be laid before the States-General.

**AMERICAN EXPERIMENTS IN PEPPERMINT-GROWING.**—A comparatively new grade of peppermint oil now on the market in the States is the result of experiments commenced about three years ago with black English mint. The *New York Shipping List* states that the original plants were reported to have come from England, but its black leaves resemble the Japanese product so closely, except in size, that even experts are deceived. The introduction of this plant in Michigan met with favour among the mint-growers, as it yielded more oil, though of a lower quality than the American plant. The growers in two counties of Michigan began to plant the new mint among the American and distil the leaves together with satisfactory results. The peppermint from the imported stock has a larger percentage of menthol. Experiments are also being made with white Mitcham plants in the United States. A small quantity of oil was distilled during the season, and has been very well received. It is probable that additional efforts will be put forth next year in this direction. This is not the first time, we may add, that such experiments have been made in Michigan.

**THE GERMAN GLASS INDUSTRY.**—The South German manufacturers of hollow glassware have recently had a convention at Munich, at which it was decided to form an association with the object of bringing about a general advance in the price of hollow glassware. A minimum-price list will be drawn up, below which none of the members of the association will be allowed to sell. This will result in an all-round advance, reaching fully 10 per cent. in the case of certain factories. The glassworks in Alsace and the Rhine provinces intend to form similar associations. The German glass industry may now be roughly divided into two groups, of which one consists of the works who produce the glass from raw material, while the other embraces the factories who purchase glass from those of the first-named group and prepare it for use. There are at present in Germany 312 works of the first group, employing 50,000 hands in the aggregate. Of these factories 187 are located in Prussia, 54 in Bavaria, and the remainder in the other German States. Seventy-four of the works are mainly engaged in the manufacture of window-glass, with an aggregate output of 137½ millions of square feet per year; 207 works make bottles and other hollow glassware; 18 manufacture crystal goods; 18, mirrors; but only three make glass for optical instruments. The second glassware group embraces 163 factories, with 9,000 hands.

## Legal Reports.

### MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

#### SODA-WATER SYPHONS.\*

AT the Swansea Police Court on Thursday, September 24, Mr. D. L. Evans, chemist, Walter Road, Swansea, was summoned for selling soda-water with a false trade description and applying a false trade description to it in contravention of the Merchandise Marks Act. Mr. Mawer, of Bristol, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Glascodine, instructed by Mr. Stanley Owen, defended. The case for the prosecution was that on August 14 an inspector employed by the South Wales and Monmouthshire Mineral Water and Bottle Exchange and Trade Protection Association went to defendant's shop, bought some neuralgic medicines and a syphon of potash-water, which bore on the metal head the words, "Betts's Aerated Waters Company (Limited)." The inspector then explained who he was. He observed another syphon, and said to Mr. Evans, "I see you have more than one syphon of Messrs. Betts's, and I shall take charge of that also." Mr. Evans immediately charged the inspector with stealing the second syphon, and he was taken to the police station. The police refused to lock him up, whereupon Mr. Evans said defiantly, "I filled these bottles myself, and I have plenty more at the shop, and I will fill them also. I belong to the Chemists' Association,\* and you cannot charge me under the Merchandise Marks Act. I am entitled to do as I like, and I shall." The syphon bore a label, on which was a description of the contents of the bottle and the words, "Prepared expressly for D. L. Evans, dispensing chemist, 32 Walter Road, Swansea."

Mr. Glascodine took the objection that the Act did not include amongst the definitions of a false trade description the name of the individual.

Mr. Mawer replied that it was in the third sub-section.

The Bench had a long discussion on the point, and in the course of the discussion they asked if Messrs. Betts put any labels on their bottles. Thereupon Mr. Glascodine produced a number of syphons bearing the name of another firm on the stoppers and ground on the glass, which bore across the centre of the bottles Messrs. Betts's label.

Mr. Mawer said it would be necessary to prove that Messrs. Betts had put those labels on the syphons.

Mr. Glascodine thought there could be little difficulty in proving that.

The Stipendiary eventually said the Bench were not quite agreed on the point, but the majority agreed that the label on the syphon had reference to its manufacture, saying "Prepared specially for Mr. — Evans," and this, together with the name of Betts & Co. on the metal part of the bottle, might be taken to be a false trade description, and so the case must go on.

The inspector proved the purchase, and was told by the Stipendiary that he ought not to have taken the second syphon. That was quite unjustifiable. Evidence was also called as to the arrest, and what transpired at the station.

Mr. Edward John Lloyd, manager for Betts & Co., deposed that his company never sold syphons to customers—they merely lent them. Defendant had no authority to fill syphons belonging to the company. In cross-examination he persisted in his statement that his company did not sell their syphons, but he admitted that if bottles were not returned they were charged for.

Mr. Glascodine, for the defence, repeated his argument that the case did not come within the meaning of the Act, the name not being included in the definitions in the Act of what a false trade description is. The syphon bore a label containing the statement that the contents of the bottles were manufactured expressly for defendant, which was a

fact, while the name on the stopper was sworn by the prosecutor to be merely an indication of the ownership of the bottle. Therefore, there had been no false trade description. Virtually the prosecution was set on foot by Messrs. Betts & Co., and he would show that they had constantly done the same thing as defendant. They had charged Messrs. Taylor & Co. for a thousand syphons not returned. These being out of Messrs. Betts's possession now they could be used by whomsoever owned them, notwithstanding that the name of the original owner was on the stopper. He protested against the use of the criminal law for the purpose of advertising a Trade Protection Association and endeavouring to obtain members.

Mr. D. L. Evans, the defendant, said the sale consisted of the contents of the syphon, and not the vessel itself. He had his own syphons, and some which were supplied by the Chemists' Association, of which he was a member. The syphons bearing Betts's name came into his possession by exchange with Messrs. Taylor & Co.

Mr. W. Lloyd Jones, manager of Messrs. Taylor & Co.'s Walter Road branch, said his firm dealt with Messrs. Betts, and it was probable that in exchanges with defendant some of Betts's bottles might have got into defendant's possession.

George Barrington, a carrier for Taylor & Co., said he had delivered from Messrs. Betts bottles with other names on the metal stoppers.

Mr. M. M. Leonard, an accountant with Messrs. Taylor & Co., said Messrs. Betts had debited his firm with a large number of syphons not returned.

The Bench then retired, and on returning into court the Stipendiary said the question was whether the evidence showed that the sale of a syphon of soda-water by Mr. Evans, with a label saying, "Prepared expressly for D. L. Evans," coupled with the inscription on the metal cover, "Betts's Aerated Water Company (Limited)," was a sale of it with a false trade description of it. The opinion of the Bench was that it was such, and that Mr. Evans was liable to a penalty under the Act; but, having regard to the novelty of the case and to the inaccurate practice which had been described, the Bench thought the light penalty of 40s., including costs, sufficient to vindicate the law.

A further summons for applying a false trade description was withdrawn.

Subsequently a curious point arose. Mr. Mawer asked the Bench: May we have the bottles?

The Stipendiary replied: The better way would be to drink them. (Laughter.)

It was then ruled that the syphon in dispute should become the property of the State.

#### SODA-WATER BOTTLES.

AT Shaftesbury on Monday, Messrs. George & Co., mineral-water manufacturers, of Gillingham, were summoned for selling one bottle of champagne-cider to which a false trade description—viz., the name of G. B. Hardy, chemist, of Salisbury—had been applied, contrary to the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887. From the evidence given, it appeared that Messrs. George had used a glass soda-water bottle of usual type, on which had been impressed "Hardy, chemist, Salisbury." On this bottle the defendants had pasted their own champagne-cider label. Mr. Rumsey, of Bournemouth, who prosecuted, said he chiefly relied on a case which had been decided in the High Court, where it had been held that these facts constituted an infringement of the Merchandise Marks Act, rendering the defendants liable on indictment to two years' imprisonment. Mr. J. Trevor-Davies, of Yeovil, who appeared for the defence, whilst admitting the facts, contended that no offence had been committed. The prosecution admitted that there had been no intention to defraud, and what had been done was done innocently. The Bench fined the defendants 1s., and refused costs.

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

#### TR. RHEI.

MR. WILLIAM PRATT, grocer, Albury, was summoned at the local Petty Sessions on September 24, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, for selling tincture of rhubarb which was found to be deficient in proof spirit and de titute of

\* We understand this to mean Chemists' Aerated and Mineral Waters Association (Limited). We have spoken to Mr. Butler, secretary for "Camwal," regarding the case, and he informs us that it is his company's practice at all their factories to send in syphons bearing other makers' names to the Bottle Exchanges. If through accident or error any syphons other than their own or their customers' are filled by them, they accept full responsibility. The company appear to have nothing to do with the above case, Mr. Evans having declared that he filled the syphon himself.—*ED. C & D.*

saffron. For the defence it was stated that the tincture had been in stock for eight years, and was compounded by the formula originally recognised by the British Pharmacopœia. More recently the composition had been altered, and it was argued that by its sale no one was prejudiced, while as a fact the drug as sold was generally preferred by the purchasers to the British Pharmacopœia preparation. The Bench considered that there was no fraud, but a fine of 10s. was imposed, an application for costs being refused.

#### SPIRIT. ÆTHER. NIT.

At Mold, on Monday, the Buckley Main Street Co-operative Society (Limited) were summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was not of British Pharmacopœia quality. Superintendent J. Ivor Davies said that on September 7 he purchased from the manager 4 oz. of spirit of nitre for which he paid 1s. A sample was sent to the public analyst at Chester, who reported that the spirit contained less active principle than was required by the British Pharmacopœia, but it was probably originally of the strength required. The analyst added that the British Pharmacopœia gave special instructions how the drug should be kept, but few chemists took the trouble to follow them, and in this case the strength had probably deteriorated through carelessness in keeping. The manager of the society said the spirit had been in their possession eighteen months, and had perhaps lost strength in being uncorked frequently. The Bench imposed a fine of 5s. and costs (in all 1*l.* 1*l.* 6*d.*).

#### TO STOP THE SALE OF METHYLATED SPIRIT.

At the Brierley Hill Police Court on September 24, Elizabeth Cox, described as a chemist, Quarry Bank, was fined 20s. and costs for selling  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of methylated spirit without a licence. The Board of Inland Revenue prosecuted. The defence was that the defendant did not know a licence was necessary in order to sell the spirit in small quantities. Mr. Cox (supervisor of Inland Revenue) said the authorities were anxious to stop the sale of the spirit, inasmuch as it was sometimes sold for consumption.

#### PROSECUTION UNDER THE DENTISTS ACT.

In the Paisley Sheriff Court on Friday, September 25, before Sheriff Cowan, the action against Mr. Louis H. Fenton, 27 Gauze Street, Paisley, for contravention of the Dentists Act, was resumed. Mr. John Pattison, writer, acting on behalf of the British Dental Association, alleged that the defendant, not being registered under the said Dentists Act, had advertised on tramway tickets in these terms—"L. H. Fenton, dentist, 27 Gauze Street, Paisley"—and caused his name to be inserted in the 1895-96 Paisley Directory as "Fenton, Louis Henry, dentist, 27 Gauze Street," and to be inserted under the head of "Surgeon-Dentists." Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Bowie, writer, appeared for Mr. Fenton, who is a member of the Unregistered Dental Practitioners' Association (Limited). He asked for an adjournment of the case owing to the non-appearance of a Mr. Howitt, the printer of the tramway tickets, who would prove that the original advertisement sent by Mr. Fenton did not contain the word "Dentist." The tickets were printed while defendant was seriously ill, and the advertisement was gone on with against Mrs. Fenton's protest. He was in possession of a letter from Howitt & Son, apologising for the mistake, and of an affidavit by Mr. Howitt in England, stating that the word "dentist" was put in without Mr. Fenton's consent. For these reasons and because defendant and his wife were not eligible as witnesses, he asked the case to be adjourned for Mr. Howitt's attendance.

The Sheriff refused the motion.

Mr. Moir, tramways manager, in cross examination by Mr. Bowie, said that he had on Saturday, September 19, received a letter from the printers recalling the tickets. The note said that the respondent had been erroneously described as a dentist. Other witnesses were examined, including Post Office officials, who described the manner in which the local Directory was compiled, and Dr. Duncan, who attended Mr. Fenton during his illness, he testifying to his inability to give orders. After the evidence had been finished the

prosecutor withdrew the third charge in the complaint, and he and Mr. Bowie addressed the Court.

The Sheriff held it proved that defendant had caused to be issued certain advertisements as charged, but said he must dismiss the case on the technical point raised by Mr. Fenton's agent—that there was no proof put forward that he was not a registered dentist.

Mr. Pattison remarked that at the former stage of the case the point in question had been admitted, and that was the reason why the register of qualified dentists had not been put forward as evidence.

His Lordship, however, held that non-qualification could not be taken as granted, and therefore dismissed the case on this point.

#### UNLOADING ROSIN.

In the City of London Court on Tuesday, before Mr. Commissioner Kerr, Messrs. White & Foxwell, 30 Croft Street, Lower Deptford Road, sought to recover the sum of 11*l.* 4*s.* from Messrs. Moore & Hole, oil and rosin brokers, Billiter House, E.C., in connection with the detention of a cargo of rosin. The defendants denied their liability, and said if anyone was liable it was Messrs. E. Catchpole & Sons, rosin-distillers, Plough Bridge, Rotherhithe, who had been brought in as third parties. Mr. Lewis Noad was counsel for the plaintiffs, Mr. Lauriston Batten for the defendants, and Mr. McCarthy for the third parties. It seemed that the defendants were receiving at Rainham a cargo of 500 barrels of rosin, and that they asked the plaintiffs to send down craft to receive the rosin immediately. That was done by the plaintiffs, and as the rosin was an unreasonably long time in coming out of the ship the plaintiffs asked for damages. The defendants said that they were the brokers who sold the rosin on behalf of Messrs. Catchpole, and that the third parties should pay the plaintiffs' damages, if any had been sustained. Mr. Batten said the defence was that there had in fact been no delay for which either of them could be held responsible. As the rosin turned up so it was put out of the ship and handed over to the plaintiffs' men. Mr. Commissioner Kerr said he did not think it was fair for members of the rosin trade to ask lightermen to wait, say, fourteen days for their rosin which came out of the ship. Suppose some of the barrels of rosin were at the top and the rest of the consignment was at the bottom. Was the barge to wait there all the time? He did not think so, without being paid for it. If one general principle were laid down for such matters, it would save him a great deal of trouble. After hearing evidence, the Commissioner said that defendants were merely the agents in the matter, and therefore not liable. He non-suited the plaintiffs, and gave the defendants and the third parties their costs.

#### Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* ELIZABETH ANN REDHEAD and DOROTHY MASON (trading as H. J. Mason & Co.) South Shields, Chemists and Druggists.

THE adjourned public examination of these debtors was appointed to be held on Tuesday last at the Newcastle Bankruptcy Court, before the Registrar, but nothing further of importance transpired, and the examination was eventually ordered to be closed.

#### FAILURE OF A MEXBOROUGH CHEMIST.

A RECEIVING order and an order of adjudication were made on Wednesday, in the Bankruptcy Court, Sheffield, against John Edward Goodall, of 3 Britain Street, and the Imperial Pharmacy, Mexborough, Yorkshire, chemist. Mr. Albert Howe, solicitor, Sheffield, is acting for the debtor, who filed his own petition.

SODIUM BOROSALICYLATE is made by heating together 70 parts of water, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  parts of boric acid, and 32 parts of sodium salicylate, and evaporating the syrupy fluid carefully until it forms a white mass. The substance is an active antiseptic.

## Gazette.

### PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Baurley, G. L., and Pepper, C. St. J., under the style of G. L. Baurley & Co., York, scientific-instrument makers.  
 Butterwith, J., and Borrow, T., under the style of the Tally Ho Tonic Company, Kendal, manufacturers of the Tally Ho horse-tonic.  
 Kirby, T. W., and Kirby, J. McG., under the style of John McGuffie & Co., Liverpool, chemists and druggists.

### THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDERS.

Joules, Wilkinson (trading as Wilkinson Joules & Son), Stockport, mineral-water manufacturer.  
 Williams & Co., Prescott, Lancs, chemists and grocers.

#### SCOTCH PETITION FOR SEQUESTRATION.

Young, Frank D., West Port, Arbroath, chemist. September 22.  
 Agent, F. F. Macdonald, Arbroath, solicitor.

## New Companies and Company News.

**SIMPSON & MARSHALL (LIMITED).**—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire, take over as a going concern, and carry on the business of pickle and sauce manufacturers, now carried on by John Simpson and James Marshall at Providence Works, Fairfield Road, Droylsden, Lancaster, under the style or firm of "Simpson & Marshall," and to enter into an agreement with the said vendors. The first directors (to number not fewer than three nor more than five) are John Simpson, James Marshall, and Edward McDonald. Qualification, 25*l.* Remuneration, as fixed by the company. Registered office, Providence Works, Fairfield Road, Droylsden, near Manchester.

**OMOGO (LIMITED).**—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To conduct and carry on the business of manufacturers and vendors of the medicine or compound known as or called "Omogo," and the ointment or preparation called "Iatropa Ointment," and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists and druggists, opticians, patent-medicine manufacturers, and makers of and dealers in surgical, optical, and mathematical instruments, and artificial limbs and eyes. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—T. Praenell, 8 St. George's Terrace, Newcastle, agent; H. B. Lym, 6 Ash Place, Sunderland, ironmonger; J. Arnott, Dean Street, Newcastle, merchant; J. T. Pragnell, 18 St. George's Terrace, Newcastle, clerk; C. H. Millican, 18 Northbourne Street, Newcastle, clerk; L. Crichton, Chester-la-Street, clerk; J. Marr, Parkside, Sunderland, shipbuilder. The first directors are the subscribers. Qualification, 200*l.* Registered office, 42 Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

**RICHARD SMITH'S EXECUTORS.**—Registered in Scotland with a capital of 50,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. To carry into effect an agreement with the trustees of the late Richard Smith and Wilfrid Smith, manufacturing chemists, Glasgow, and to manufacture chemical products of all kinds (including sulphuric acid, muriatic acid, nitric acid, sulphate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, liquid ammonia, and benzole), and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists. The first subscribers are:—Wilfrid Smith, 182 West Street, Glasgow, manufacturing chemist; Theresa Barge, of Artamar, Row, Dumbartonshire, wife of R. W. Barge, Manchester, merchant; Jane Augusta Smith, of Torwood Cottage, Row, Dumbartonshire; Jeanette Smith, of Torwood Cottage, Row, Dumbartonshire; Andrew Fleming, 182 West Street, Glasgow, cashier; Ronald Barge, Artamar, Row, clerk; Robert Henry Barge, 7 Lower Moseley Street, Manchester, merchant. The first directors are Wilfrid Smith, Robert Henry Barge, and Andrew Fleming.

**"ZOTIS" (LIMITED).**—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take over as a going concern the business of a patent-medicine proprietor and vendor, carried on under the style or firm of "The Zotis Company," at 28 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., and to carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists,

manufacturers of and dealers in patent medicines, medical herbalists, dyers, mineral and aerated water manufacturers, &c. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—F. A. Dilkoosha, 1 Walpole Road, Strawberry Hill, London, S.W., advertising agent; A. Campbell, 28 Gray's Inn Road, W.C., electrical engineer; A. T. Spalding, Urmston, Manchester, journalist; Henry W. Sharp, 28 Gray's Inn Road, W.C., manufacturing druggist; Oswald S. Taylor, 203 Mile End Road, E., clerk; G. A. Bell, 121 Park Lane, Chiswick Park, N., secretary; H. Gerald, 31 Crondace Road, Fulham, S.W., clerk. The first directors (to number not fewer than two nor more than five) are to be nominated by the subscribers. Qualification, 100 shares. Henry W. Sharp is the managing director. Registered office, 28 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.

**MELLIN'S FOOD (LIMITED)** have resolved to so alter their articles of association as to comply with the regulations which are imposed by the Stock Exchange before an official quotation can be granted.

**ROSBACH WATER SYNDICATE (LIMITED).**—It was resolved on August 26, and confirmed at a meeting held at 38 Leadenhall Street on September 11, that this company be wound up voluntarily. Mr. Peter Gardiner, 3 and 4 Lime Street Square, was appointed liquidator. Claims should be sent in to the liquidator by October 31.

**PARKE'S DRUG-STORES (LIMITED).**—The directors, in their second annual report to be dealt with at the meeting next week, state that during the year ended June 30 they opened four new shops in London, bringing the total up to fourteen, and new premises are being built in a corner position at North End Road, Fulham. The ten stores reported upon last year show this year increased sales amounting to upwards of 2,000*l.* The profits on the year's trading, after deducting 608*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* on account of depreciation, amount to 4,036*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, and there is to be deducted from that 1,954*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* for management (including directors' fees), and 159*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*, leaving 1,778*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* for dividend. As already reported, an interim dividend has been paid, which is to be completed by a payment bringing the dividend up to 6 per cent. for the year. A sum of 34*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* is carried forward. We observe from the balance-sheet that the plant, fittings, and fixtures of the head office and fourteen stores are valued at 15,620*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* and the stock at 19,556*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*

## Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will of Mr. J. G. V. Ismay, chemist and druggist, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who died on August 12, 1895, has been proved by Mrs. Ismay, the widow and sole executrix. The personalty amounts to 18,657*l.* 14*s.* gross, and 15,012*l.* 19*s.* net.

The will and two codicils of Mr. Edward Harvey, of Messrs. Barron, Harveys & Co., of Giltspur Street, E.C., who died on August 17, has been proved by Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Edward Key Harvey, and Mr. Roger M. Harvey, the widow and sons, by whom the personalty is sworn at 16,513*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* gross, and 14,119*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* net.

The will and two codicils of Mr. Wm. Anderson Preston, retired chemist and druggist, of Selby, Yorks, formerly of Balmer, who died on June 30, 1896, have been proved by Mr. T. G. Hawdon and Mr. Ebenezer Townend, the executors. The testator's personalty amounts to 3,196*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* gross, and 3,101*l.* 18*s.* net.

The will of the late Mr. Alfred Richard Crawshaw Annison, of Chichester Road, Croydon, a member of the firm of F. W. Bowyer & Battlett, drug and opium brokers, of 147 Fenchurch Street, E.C., who died on August 3 last, has been proved by Mr. F. E. Annison and Mr. A. C. Annison, sons of the deceased and executors under the will. The personalty amounts to 17,882*l.* Testator leaves his widow an annuity of 150*l.* 2,000*l.* and a selection of furniture, plate, &c., to Katie Ellen Ellis, and 50*l.* to Sarah M. Bayley, an old servant; the residue he divides equally between his before-mentioned sons.

## Trade Notes.

**MARROL**.—The Lignor Carnis Company, Aston Clinton, Bucks, inform us that they are now able to fill orders for the large size of marrol—i.e., the half-crown size. They have been in the unhappy and exceptional position for two months of refusing orders for this size. We notice that the company are making a special effort to "sample" medical men just now, and this may bring more money to the trade.

**CATANZARO LIQUORICE**.—Mr. H. Rubeck, 59 Mark Lane, E.C., has submitted to us samples of this brand of liquorice juice, for which he was appointed agent some time ago. We understand that the liquorice is a cheap one, and we have, therefore, tested it with the view of ascertaining whether it contains any added material or diluent, but neither of these could we detect. As far as analysis can tell it is the pure liquorice juice which the manufacturer claims it to be. Copper is a rather common impurity of cheap liquorice juice, but there is none detectable in the ash of this brand. We can commend the juice to the attention of manufacturers as well as retailers who desire a pure liquorice juice at a moderate price, but Mr. Rubeck only supplies it in wholesale quantities.

**PEPTONISED COCOA**.—Mr. W. P. Van Wyk, who has for many years studied the chemistry and technique of cocoa manufacture, has recently perfected a peptonised cocoa which chemists and druggists will find to be a good saleable line. Many people dare not take cocoa because of the indigestion and headache which it produces, and it is partly to overcome this disadvantage that Mr. Van Wyk has produced his new article. Pancreatin and sodium bicarbonate are used in the peptonisation, and the cocoa is put up in powder form to retail at 1s. 2d. per  $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tin—by no means an extravagant figure. It is perfectly soluble, pleasant in flavour, and is free from sugar, so that those who must not take sugar will find it suit them. It can be obtained through the patent-medicine and wholesale houses.

**"PEARS' PICTORIAL"**.—The September issue of this quarterly is devoted to a reproduction of "True Blue," with George Cruikshank's illustrations. "True Blue" is a collection of sailors' songs sung in Nelson's day, and composed by sailor birds of the period. They are curious reading nowadays, but the real interest of the *Pictorial* lies in the Cruikshank sketches. Some of them are by Isaac Cruikshank, father of the famous artist. In the prefatory article Mr. Joseph Grego tells how intimately the family was connected with seafaring, and that Isaac Cruikshank "produced quite a gallery of pictures founded upon sailors' experiences." The *Pictorial* contains the series entitled "The Sailor's Progress," which is most amusing. Copies may be obtained at the bookstalls or direct from the publishers, Messrs. A. & F. Pears (Limited). The published price is 6d.

**MEDICATED WINES**.—Mr. S. B. White, chemist, Leicester, makes an announcement in our advertisement-pages this week which is well worth consideration. Mr. White manufactures a good coca-wine (we have tried it, so "speak by the book"), and he offers the agency for it to one chemist in a district. He makes a point that chemists only get the agency, which is a matter of importance, and he offers to pay the off wine-licence on first orders of 10% net value. This need not be for coca-wine solely, because Mr. White also manufactures a Liebig's meat-and-malt wine, and the order can be made up of both. It will be seen from the announcement that Mr. White has devised a good scheme for making the wines sell, all the doctors in the district being "sampled," an advertisement is inserted in the local newspaper, each town is billed thoroughly, and a liberal supply of handbills and showcards is given to the agent. The coca-wine retails at 1s. 6d. and 2s. 9d., and the Liebig's at 2s. and 3s. 6d. Mr. White also offers quinine-wine in bulk. He has apparently studied this wine-question carefully.

**MESSERS. E. GERAUT & CO.**, Farringdon Road, E.C., have supplied us with further particulars regarding their dispute with the Holborn Guardians, which show that they have been somewhat harshly treated. They had supplied the City Road Workhouse with syphons from August, 1892, to December

last, when the orders were sent to another firm, no notice of any change being given to them. When, in the course of business, they heard of the change, they desired their empties to be returned, for which they held counterfoils signed by the master of the workhouse or his representatives. Some were returned, and when they were informed that there were no more, they found a shortage of 35 $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen syphons and thirty-six cases, valued at 53l. 6s. 6d. Accounts were rendered periodically showing this accumulation. Correspondence with the Guardians about the matter was kept up from February to June; and when Messrs. Geraut put the facts into their solicitor's hands in July they were advised that the payment was statute-barred unless the Local Government Board extended the time. Hence Messrs. Geraut's communication to the Board referred to last week. The Board replied to the effect that they could not go into the matter unless the Guardians agree, and it was to obtain this point that Messrs. Geraut applied to the Guardians last week, and they, secure in the fact that the account is statute-barred, refuse to consider the matter further. The incident brings into prominence the fact that Guardians are not bound to pay for goods supplied in one quarter after the succeeding quarter has expired.

**LARGIADÈRE'S APPARATUS**.—Messrs. K'ohne & Sesemann, 8 Duke Street, Manchester Square, W., bring under our notice this apparatus for muscular exercise, which is of special interest at the present moment when medical men are beginning to appreciate the value of gentle arm-exercise, as a remedial agent in diseases of the thoracic organs. The apparatus consists of a rope, or rather two, each being fixed in a polished-mahogany handle, the one rope sliding through the handle of the other. At the ends are weights, divided into five or more discs, sliding over a steel catch which permits the weights to be removed. This catch secures the rope, but it is so arranged that the rope can be shortened or otherwise adapted to the height of the person using the apparatus. In a sense the apparatus is a set of dumb-bells, and can be used as such, but it has the additional advantage of presenting to the user a degree of resistance which is



highly beneficial for the development of the chest. The figure shows the manner of using the apparatus; but we have before us a sheet illustrating about a hundred different postures that the user may assume. The great advantage of the apparatus is that the weight can be graduated so easily, and its adaptation in this direction and in length makes it suitable for several persons in a household. Mr. Theodore Zahn, a German physical instructor, has written a book about the apparatus, in which he shows its capabilities for muscular exercise. We introduce the apparatus to the notice of the drug-trade, partly for the benefit of the many who feel that the sedentary life of pharmacy does not give them sufficient opportunity for exercise, and partly that those who do business in surgical appliances may add the apparatus to their stock. It is made in six sizes, which cover the requirements of children, weak adults, and robust adults. The prices range from 6s. 6d. to 15s.

## Personalities.

DR. TRIMEN, Director of the Ceylon Botanical Gardens, and collaborator with the late Professor Bentley in the production of "Medicinal Plants," is seriously ill.

MR. W. A. MUNN, who may be fairly described as the pioneer of modernised methods in the Newfoundland cod-liver oil industry, is a native of the island, but has spent a considerable time in Montreal.

MR. G. F. BIRKS, formerly of Adelaide, left London for Australia on Friday by the *Austral*. He will act as Australasian representative for Messrs A. Bishop & Sons (Limited), and another English chemical firm.

APOTHEKER ANTON VON WALDHEIM, President of the Austrian Pharmaceutical Society and honorary member of the German Pharmaceutical Society, celebrated on September 22 the completion of the fiftieth year in which he had been engaged in pharmacy.

MR. DAVID HOOPER has been appointed to act at Calcutta as Reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India during Dr. George Watt's absence on three months leave. Mr. Hooper has charge of the Economic and Art Section of the Museum of India during this period.

SIR CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, K.C.B., F.R.S., President of the Royal Geographical Society, has made his appearance in



(From a photo by Elliott & Fry.)

public in a new light—viz., as a novelist. Hitherto Sir C. Markham's publications, though numerous, have been of a severely technical character. To pharmacists he is best known perhaps as the author of two standard works on cinchona, the one relating to South America, whence he procured the seeds at considerable personal trouble and risk, the other dealing with the cultivation of the cinchonas in British India. Sir Clements Markham's South American travels made him an enthusiast as well as an authority of the first rank on the history of the Inca Empire of Peru, and inspired a great many articles from his pen on Peruvian history, geography, and literature. Like Robert Louis Stevenson, who confessed to the singular fascination he felt in poring over a geographical atlas, Sir Clements Markham divides his attention between geography and literature. In his former capacity he occupies the dignified office of President of the Royal Geographical Society, in the latter he has just published, through Messrs. A. & C. Black, an historical romance entitled "The Paladins of Edwin the Great," for which Mr. Ralph Peacock has furnished the illustrations. The scene of the story is laid partly in Northumbria, in the beginning of the seventh century, shortly after the introduction of Christianity into England, and partly in Constantinople and Rome.

MRS. FRED REYNOLDS, in her latest novel, "A Tangled Garden," makes a notable advance towards the first rank of English women-novelists. At the moment of writing we have not finished the tale, and it is not one that can be skipped; but we have got sufficiently into the plot to justify us in saying that the author far exceeds in manner and matter her last effort. It is a book which will appeal specially to women and those who can appreciate child-life, for there is much in it which reflects warmth of affection and knowledge of children's ways. Mrs. Reynolds can describe scenery, too; indeed, there are some charming passages dealing with North Wales in the early part of the book. The tale begins well. A young man, of Quaker origin, resolves, after a University education, to embark on

a literary life. Meanwhile he becomes infatuated with a woman no longer young, but still beautiful. He believes her to be a widow, and works up towards a proposal, and is in dramatic circumstances rejected. For why, and all that happens after, we must refer our readers to the book itself. What we have told is in the prologue—an original touch, which is quite successful. For those who do not know, we may explain that Mrs. Reynolds is the wife of a pharmaceutical chemist. Her publishers are Messrs. Hutchinson & Co., who have produced the book excellently.

## Business Changes.

*Notices of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section, free of charge, if properly authenticated.*

BOOTS' CASH CHEMISTS (LIMITED) have opened a shop at 3 Market Square, Stafford.

MR. E. L. MERRET, chemist and druggist, has succeeded to Mr. Marshall's business at Henfield, Sussex.

DR. P. H. DAVIS, analyst, removed on October 1 from 106 Salcoat Road, S.W., to the East Hill Laboratories, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. NEIL S. SINCLAIR (from Boots', Limited, Nottingham) has purchased the business of the late Mr. Lowe at 112 High Street, Woolwich.

MR. A. TAYLOR, son of Mr. A. Taylor, Eccleshill, has commenced business on his own account at Chapel Hill Pharmacy, Morley, near Leeds.

MR. GEO. BROWNEN, analytical and consulting chemist, has removed from 16 Althorp Road, Upper Tooting, S.W., to 38 Gloucester Place, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

MR. W. BOWDEN, late of Bowden's Drug-stores, Hyde Park, has acquired the newly-built premises at 62 Hill Road, Wimbledon, and opened a first class pharmacy, which he proposes to run as Bowden's Drug-stores with store prices.

MR. C. D. HART, chemist, Sadler Gate, Derby, has taken over the Duffield Road Pharmacy, 2 Duffield Road, Derby, as a branch, from the executors of the late Mr. Wm. Parker (formerly J. S. Scholes), together with the wine and spirit business attached.

A PHARMACY has been opened on Bree Street, Cape Town, by Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie, formerly manager to Messrs. Bridges, Sloane Street, London. All the cases and fittings (which are of solid mahogany), recess-labelled bottles, and drugs have been supplied by Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb, London.

DEATHS.—"On the 4th inst., after a short but protracted illness, Mr. J. E., boot and shoemaker, aged 72 years." A subscriber sends us this cutting from his "local" newspaper.

LARGE beds of infusorial earth have been discovered near Stavanger, in Norway, and purchased by local capitalists. Two companies have been formed, which are trying to sell their rights abroad.

UNRESTRICTED SALE OF OXALIC ACID.—At the magisterial inquiry held at Croydon this week regarding the alleged murder of her child by a Mrs. Challis with oxalic acid, Mr. W. H. Sands, barrister, who defended her, complained of the unrestricted sale of such dangerous poisons as oxalic acid, which he reminded the Bench was not a scheduled poison (!). The Mayor: There is no suggestion in this case, I think, that the chemist (Mr. Long) did not exercise proper care in selling it? Mr. Sands: No, sir. But more care ought to be taken generally in selling it, as it is not scheduled. The Mayor: At any rate, you do not make any suggestion that the chemist was to blame? Mr. Sands repeated that he did not, and the subject was allowed to drop. In connection with this case it has been reported that the poison was sold by Mr. Phillips, chemist, Southend. The Coroner (Dr. Jackson) has informed the jury that the statement is untrue.

## Royal Photographic Exhibition.

AS an exposition of the photographic art of to day, the collection of pictures and specimens now on view at the hall of the Royal Society of Painters in Water-colours, Pall Mall East, is as fine a thing as has been brought together, and compared with the Dudley Gallery Salon, the Photographic Society's effort is more catholic, more pleasing, and decidedly more enjoyable. It is a smaller show this year, but we understand that the Selection Committee had 1,100 pictures to choose from, and of these they have hung only 354, or about 100 fewer than last year. These are arranged in charming fashion round the Gallery. We have rarely seen pictures so well hung. In addition to ordinary photographs there are a series of skiagraphs, lantern-slides, stereoscopic views, and a nice collection of apparatus.

The collection of pictures does not contain many novelties in methods of production—bromide, carbon, and platinum papers predominating—except in the architectural pictures, which are mostly printed on gelatino-chloride paper, some of them platinum-toned. We were pleased to note the great perfection attained by most exhibitors in the last-mentioned class. There is not a bad picture amongst them, and some are of distinct historical value. We also observed a number of homely interiors, which are interesting as compositions and highly creditable in execution.

The portraiture is above the average. The place of honour is given to a life-sized "Study of a Child," in carbon, by Mr. Henry C. Spink, of Brighton, in which the background is Carrara marble—a highly successful effort. A medal has been awarded to Mr. Phillip von Schoeller for a portrait-study of a girl with ruff, the light falling on one side. It is but a  $7\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  picture, but every bit of it shows softness and character. Mr. W. M. Warnecke's portrait of a lady (No. 37) is a study in brown carbon which exhibits originality in method and treatment. A goodly number of figure compositions are in the Gallery, and there are few uninteresting pictures amongst them, while many are suggestive.

In landscapes the collection seems to us to be much ahead of last year's exhibition. The keynote is struck by No. 1, "Silver Birch," by Mr. Frederick A. Crew, which recalls MacWhirter. There are some beautiful sea and sail pictures, and the moorland effects are also good. Medical men have contributed a good share of the work in this department. Dr. Page May, 49 Welbeck Street, W., has thirteen pictures on the walls, those of Egyptian desert-scenes being the most interesting, although the portraits of Thothmes II. and other ancient Egyptian kings are historically more valuable. Professor Finlay, M.D., of Aberdeen, sends a sea-piece, "Mist and Sunshine," and Dr. George MacDonald, of Southall, carries off a medal for a bunch of roses, to which his "Wild Flowers" (No. 77) is scarcely inferior. Pharmaceutical visitors will find many botanical pictures in the Gallery, those of Mr. Henry Troth being well worth inspection, and they suggest the possibility of using photographs for study and examination purposes. Other medical men exhibiting are Mr. J. Hall-Edwards, L.R.C.P., of Birmingham, who contributes to the skiagraphic section; Mr. E. E. Manwaring, M.R.C.S., Brighton; and Dr. Llewellyn Morgan, Liverpool. In the apparatus exhibits is shown Victor Bracq's "chariot polyposes," the apparatus for making photographic "doubles," or photographs in which the same person appears in several positions. We printed one of the first examples of such pictures about two years since. The apparatus takes the form of a rectangular frame which can be slid in front of the focussing-screen and the dry plate by means of an endless screw. With the exhibit is a frame of results, to show what the instrument can accomplish.

Messrs. George Houghton & Son, High Holborn, show several novelties, including a walking-stick stand for the pocket "Kodak." Messrs. W. Watson & Sons, High Holborn, exhibit, amongst other things, Röntgen-ray apparatus; and Messrs. Thorn & Hoddle, 169 Camberwell New Road, S.E., show a small acetylene-gas generator.

The exhibition will be open until the middle of November. It is open daily from 10 to 5, and on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings at 7. Demonstrations of x ray photography are given daily at 3.30 P.M. The Birt-Acres kinematoscope

is shown every evening that the exhibition is open, at 8.45 P.M., and exhibitions of slides by means of the optical lantern are given at 7.45 P.M. Each evening there is a distinct set of slides, and it would be well for those interested to get the programme-card.

It is a strange commentary upon the ways of newspaper art-criticism that our leading morning daily has entrusted its reporting of photographic matters to a gentleman intimately connected with the fortunes of the Photographic Salon. It is not surprising, therefore, to find the Salon lauded to the skies in our contemporary's columns, and the Royal Photographic Society's exhibition is devoid of "soul," and all else that makes for Salonic righteousness.

## Photographing in Tropical Africa.

By LIONEL DECLE.

ALMOST every traveller or explorer who visits Africa takes among his luggage a photographic apparatus, but unfortunately very few succeed in bringing home a series of good pictures. Having had myself considerable experience in photographing in tropical regions, I will try to give as briefly as possible the result of my experience. During a five years' journey round the world I took nearly 4,000 photographs. More recently, when I crossed Africa from the Cape to Uganda, from 1891 to 1894, I took over 400 photographs. During these journeys I have tried different apparatus and have tested almost every brand of plates and films, and I have been able to determine what is the most useful outfit to be recommended to intending explorers.

*Camera.*—To insure success it is necessary to have a strong camera of the simplest make but powerfully constructed and abundantly brass bound—5 by 4 and half-plate are the most useful sizes. The camera should rest on a strong stand, so-called detective or hand cameras being useless toys. The stand must be very strong, so as not to be shaken by the wind. Double dark slides should not be used, as they invariably let in the light after some time. The most practical way of carrying plates is by using one of Hare's changing-boxes. I am actually using one that has already been three years in Central Africa and six months in Madagascar. It has been through more than 400 days of rain, and has never been out of order. Two lenses ought to be used—a rapid rectilinear and a wide-angle lens—both fitted with iris diaphragm.

*Plates and Films.*—I have tried both, and I have no hesitation in condemning films for tropical climates. It is a mistake to imagine that weight is of great importance in Central Africa. When you travel with a caravan the average amount of luggage, camp material, and trading goods required for a journey of twelve to eighteen months comes to 8,000 to 10,000 lbs. A difference of 50 lbs. more or less is therefore of no consequence. The plates which I have found most satisfactory are Wratten & Wainwright's. Out of nearly 5,000 of them I have used I never found a bad one, and they stand heat and damp equally well. It is worth describing the extraordinary tests I have subjected them to. In 1891 I started from the Cape with three gross of the plates. During six months they were carted about on ox-waggons, being jolted in the most terrific fashion, but not a single one was broken. In the Kalahari desert I met with a mishap, and had to leave most of my goods behind me, proceeding with a few loads to the Zambesi. When I returned three months later I found that the box containing my plates had been left in the open during all the time in the rain. When the case was opened the cardboard boxes were so soaked that they dropped to pieces. I dried them in the sun, and having tried some of the plates I was astonished to find that none of them were spotted and all of them were quite as good as before. In fact, for the two years following I took all my photos on these plates, and all the pictures turned out excellent. I must, however, recommend the ordinary (slow) plates. Using a Dalmeyer's rapid rectilinear lens with the smallest diaphragm, an exposure of two seconds can be given in the brightest sun, and the picture so obtained is quite soft and full of details.

*Development.*—If you want to obtain good results it is necessary to develop the plates as you take them. This can

be easily done by using a portable tent—a box covered with a dark cloth that you fasten round your waist. Fresh chemicals and great cleanliness are indispensable. The question of chemicals is a difficult one to solve—I strongly advise the use of pyrogallie acid and ammonia, especially with Wratten's plates. The solution with which I obtained the best results is the following:—

Pyrogallie acid .. .. 20 gr.  
Water .. .. 2 oz.

Add to the above 12 minims of the following solution:—

Ammonia solution, '880° .. .. 1 dr.  
Water .. .. 1 dr.  
Bromide of potassium .. .. 8 gr.

Up to 20 minims of this can be added to the pyro solution, but above this amount there is great danger of getting a green fog. I found much difficulty in preserving pyro and in keeping ammonia from evaporating, but Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. solved the difficulty for me. Their compressed "tabloids" of pyro can be kept almost indefinitely without turning black, and, each "tabloid" being accurately weighed, a fresh solution can be made instantaneously for each plate. They also supplied me with '880 ammonia in hermetically sealed tubes, each containing 1 dr.—sufficient to develop six to eight plates. Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. now manufacture a whole series of photographic "tabloids."

I would again insist upon the necessity for cleanliness. In tropical climates solutions get readily oxidised, and it is absolutely necessary, after developing each plate, to thoroughly clean the tray and the measure-glass. When the plate has been fixed it ought to be well washed and then immersed for at least a quarter of an hour in a strong solution of alum. When taken out of the alum-bath the plate must be dipped in a tin of water, lightly rubbed all over with the fingers, and then washed over with running water.

To pack up negatives they ought to be placed face to face, with a piece of paper between them. Each dozen is then tied up in a piece of paper, fastened as tight as possible with a small string, and placed in the original cardboard box. If the plates are packed very tight together, they are absolutely safe and run no risk of being broken.

## Trade-Marks Applied for.

ANY person who has good grounds of objection to the registration of any of the following marks should at once communicate with Sir Reader Cook, Comptroller-General, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," September 16, 1896.)

- View of a public garden; for chemical substances. By Cama Ramji, Vadrigadi, No. 48, Bombay. 196,731. The essential particular is the combination of devices.
- "CLOXAL"; for a disinfecting and deodorising compound. By the Rev. W. Hanlon, M.A., Lrishannon, co. Cork. 197,145.
- "KAFFRA"; for medicated wines. By T. H. Lonsdale, trading as the Mead Manufacturing Company, 156 Aldersgate Street, E.C. 196,152.
- Figure of a shield-shaped label ("Bronchial Compound," &c.); for a medicine for the cure of coughs, &c. By Lambert Brothers, 4 Michael Street, Peel, I.M. 196,258. Essential particular: a facsimile signature.
- "BUCOE"; for a liniment. By Stott & Co., Mayroyd Works, Hebden Bridge, Yorks. 196,906.
- Device of Don Quixote suffering from gout, with wording, "Bailey's Gontine," &c.; for a medicine. By W. H. L. Bailey, 73 Basinghall Street, E.C. 196,959. Essential particular: the device.
- "VINCOTER"; for a medicated wine. By J. A. Terry, trading as the Vincoter Company, 57 Webb's Road, Wandsworth Common. 197,075.
- "Yo-Yo"; for mineral and aerated waters. By Pearce, Duff & Co., 95 Rouel Road, Bermondsey, S.E. 196,315.

"KIRO"; for mineral and aerated waters. By Wheatley & Bates (Limited), Napier Street, Sheffield. 197,024.

"LATONA"; for goods of Class 47 (soaps, &c.). By G. C. Fowler, chemist, 75 Tressillian Road, Brockley. 197,348.

'No. 1,695. JOHANN MARIA FARINA, ALTER MARKT, No. 54," in script, on label; for perfumery. By J. M. Farina and Robert Tilley, trading as Johann Maria Farina, Alter Markt, No. 54, Cologne. 195,584. Essential particular: the signature.

Portrait of Thomas Carlyle, and wording ("The Carlyle Bouquet," &c.), on label; for a perfume. By J. T. Lloyd, chemist and druggist, 269 King's Road, Chelsea. 196,432. Essential particular: the portrait.

"CALIPH"; for perfumed soap. By Palmer & Co. (Limited), Victoria Works, Stratford, E. 196,893.

Figure of the Eiffel Tower; for varnishes and Berlin black. By W. T. Bgsby, Trundley Road, Deptford. 195,946.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," September 23, 1896.)

Sketch of covered waggon; for chemical-substances used in manufactures, photography, &c. By Dreyfus & Co., 2 Jeffrey's Square, London, E.C., merchants. 197,459.

Facsimile signature of applicant written across monogram; for liquid disinfectants. By S. S. Pearce, 1 Cordova Road, Bow, London, E., spinster. 195,085. The essential particular is the signature.

"SKEEVIT"; for chemical-substances in Classes 2 and 3. By H. C. Stephens, 191 Aldersgate Street, London, E.C. ink-manufacturer. 197,261-2.

"ST. MARTHA'S MULBERRY PILLS"; for pills for human use. By T. O. Spencer, trading as the Surrey Trading Company, Shiere, near Guildford, merchant. 193,250. The essential particular is the words "St. Martha's."

"J. H. COLEMAN," being facsimile signature of applicant; for liver-pills, cough-pills, nursery-mixtures, and other medicinal mixtures and preparations for human use included in Class 3. By J. H. Coleman, 7 Worcester Street, Wolverhampton, dispensing chemist. 197,169.

Decorated oval label, with name and address, and facsimile signature of applicant; for ginger-beer. By William Stones, trading as Jewsbury & Brown, 113 Market Street, Manchester. 197,292. The essential particulars are the signature and label device.

Floral label, with representation of a Mitcham lavender-field, facsimile signature of applicants, and other wording; for lavender-water. By John Jackson & Co., Mitcham Road Steam Distilleries, Mitcham, Surrey. 192,703. The essential particulars are the label, device, and applicants' signature.

"GRAND VIZIER"; for perfumed soap. By Palmer & Co. (Limited), Victoria Road, Stratford, London, E., candle-manufacturers. 196,894.

"GLAANDLÜNE"; for a toilet-preparation for the hair. By Camillo R'gola, 5 The Avenue, Bonrneworth, perfumer. 196,938.

Label-device of performing bears with keeper, picturesque label-device of Laplauder driving reindeer-sledge; for all goods included in Class 1, but not including anti-corrosive paint, glue, or carbonate of ammonia. By the Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik, Frieserheimer, Landstrasse, Ludwigshafen-on-Rhine, Germany. 196,578, 196,584.

Circular device containing caricature of Saxon soldier, and wording, "The Saxon Brand," &c; for yeast. By the Manchester Chemical Company, 2 and 8 Corn Exchange, Fennel Street, Manchester. 196,647. The essential particular is the device.

"DOCTOR," said he, "I'm a victim of insomnia. I can't sleep if there's the least noise—such as a cat on the back fence, for instance." "This powder will be effective," replied the physician, after compounding a prescription. "When do I take it, doctor?" "You don't take it. You give it to the cat, in a little milk."

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**NOTICE.**— Mr. J. W. WHITWORTH being  
no longer in our employ is not authorised to  
collect accounts on our behalf.

Sept 23rd 1896.

*Sketcher, Seidlitz & Co.*

## Editorial Comments.

### ARE BOOTS BEATEN?

MR. JESSE BOOT has appealed to Cæsar, and now awaits the  
decision which Cæsar—to wit, proprietary-medicine manu-  
facturers and wholesale dealers therein—may give as to his  
charge against retail druggists. We do not suppose that  
Cæsar will speak before he has heard what the other side  
has to say, and there is much to say in reply to Mr. Boot's  
plaintive pleading. There is something to be said, for  
example, regarding Mr. Boot's statement that three-fourths

of the trade in proprietary medicines is done by stores and pushing firms. We think he exaggerates, but none can tell better than the patent-medicine houses how far that is correct. Nor is it proven that a rise in price of a popular article, which means bringing it up to the advertised price, is prejudicial to its sale. The facts, such as they are, are against that view. Mr. Boot avoids the most important consideration in respect to the patent-medicine trade, which is that he and others have made such articles a leading line, and have created that contrast between "selling-price" and "our price," which have helped to make business for them, but have so diminished the value of the trade to those who work on strictly economic lines that they may decline to handle the goods if manufacturers do not assist them to get a better ratio of profit. The case of the retail druggist must be considered by manufacturers and wholesale dealers, spite of the fact that Mr. Boot and similar pushing men are valuable customers, and Mr. Boot must have a strong backing before he can undo the good work which the Proprietary Articles Trade Association have so far accomplished. Indeed, if Mr. Boot's purpose had been to unite retail druggists, and to bring a larger measure of sympathy towards the Association he could not have selected a better way of doing it than his letter. The time is also favourable to retailers, for in a week or two the Winter Session will be in full swing, and it will pay the trade to drop presidential addresses and scientific disquisitions, and give expression to their combined opinion on this last assault of their heritage.

#### ARE WE LOSING GROUND IN FOREIGN TRADE?

WITH our ears full of the discordant notes of prophets of evil, who are for ever croaking of the impending ruin of our foreign trade, we took up a recently issued Blue-book of statistical tables on British trade and production from 1854 to 1894 compared with that of foreign nations. The book contains about ninety pages full of figures, and one has to wade pretty deeply through it, and make several calculations of one's own, before one can draw a moral. The following short table is the result of certain calculations which we have made on the basis of the figures in the Blue-book. The quinquennial periods 1875-79 and 1890-94 are the furthest distant ones which admit of comparison, inasmuch as it is only since 1875 that trade statistics have been kept in Britain, the United States, Germany, and France upon a sufficiently similar basis. We have also (what statisticians generally fail to do) taken into account the relative population of each country, for it is obvious that if, to take a suppositious case, the foreign trade of both France and Germany had increased 50 per cent. in the course of twenty years, while the population of Germany had grown by 10 per cent. and that of France had remained stationary, the relative commercial gain of France would have been greater than that of Germany. Our calculations give the following result:—

#### IMPORTS.

|                                                                                                | U. Kingdom | U. States | France  | Germany |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|
|                                                                                                | £ s. d.    | £ s. d.   | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Average value of imports per head of population                                                |            |           |         |         |
| lustrum 1875-79 .. ..                                                                          | 11 3 5     | 2 2 5     | 4 6 7   | 4 6 1   |
| Ditto 1890-94 .. ..                                                                            | 10 19 7    | 2 11 11   | 4 8 0   | 4 2 2   |
| For every 1000. of goods imported in 1875-79 the country imported per inhabitant in 1890-94 .. | 98.3       | 122.4     | 101.6   | 95.4    |
| Percentage of increase or decrease .. ..                                                       | - 1.7      | + 22.4    | + 1.6   | - 4.6   |

#### EXPORTS.

|                                                                                                | U. Kingdom | U. States | France  | Germany |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|
|                                                                                                | £ s. d.    | £ s. d.   | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Average value of exports per head of population                                                |            |           |         |         |
| lustrum 1875-79 .. ..                                                                          | 6 0 0      | 2 16 3    | 3 14 11 | 3 3 0   |
| Ditto 1890-94 .. ..                                                                            | 6 2 11     | 2 19 0    | 3 11 4  | 3 2 9   |
| For every 1000. of goods exported per inhabitant in 1875-79 the country exported in 1890-94 .. | 102.4      | 104.9     | 95.2    | 99.6    |
| Percentage of increase or decrease .. ..                                                       | + 2.4      | + 4.9     | - 4.8   | - 0.4   |

Taking into account the great fall in the price of staple commodities during the past twenty years, the increased output and spending-power of the United States are remarkable. The United Kingdom, it will be seen, has made fair progress. The loss in exports of France is probably due largely to her rigid protectionism, and Germany, per head of population, actually both imports and exports a smaller money's worth of goods than she did in 1875-79. These figures do not prove everything, but they should go a long way to allay unfounded alarm.

#### A DOCTORS' UNION.

GENERAL medical practitioners have been put to sore straits lately. The struggle for existence presses hard upon them, and the five years' curriculum has afforded no relief. The internal competition is greater, if anything, than the external; considerations of professionalism prevent that self-assertion which is tolerated in the higher ranks and in trade, and the men who carry health to the poor and the needy are too frequently poorer than their patients. All these things have been patent to those who have read medical journals during this year. "The Battle of the Clubs" has been a constant topic in them, and, summed up, it means that doctors have at last kicked against the grinding-down process which working-men's and other medical clubs have applied to them. They have begun to see that these clubs have taken advantage of their greatest weakness—want of combination—and now we are to have a doctors' union, a sort of professional anti-cutting association. The scheme is outlined by a *Times* correspondent. It is proposed to combine the entire profession in a union pledged not to accept less than a fixed *minimum* fee from any patient, and to refuse to attend any patient who is unable or unwilling to pay this fee, unless he is a subscriber to a general provident fund or a person entitled to Poor-law medical relief. The provident fund is the brightest part of the idea. The originators consider that there are many people who cannot pay an ordinary medical fee, and who, when an illness comes upon them, must accept hospital charity, who would subscribe at fixed periods a sum within their means, which would entitle them to free medical attendance. Better that than spend all their small savings on the doctor's bill. No patient would be admitted to the provident class unless he could satisfy a local committee, consisting of representatives of both sides, that his income did not exceed a certain sum, and the *minimum* fee and subscription would move with the income. In deciding the scale of subscriptions and fees the number of the subscriber's family would also be taken into account.

One of the best features of the scheme is that perfect freedom of choice of doctor and patient would remain. The patient would choose the doctor he wishes, and having once chosen, he would be required to stick to that doctor during a certain specified period. The doctor would be free

to refuse any patient at the outset, but having accepted him he would be required to continue his treatment for a fixed period. At stated periods the provident fund, less the expenses of management, would be distributed amongst the members of the union in proportion to the number of patients treated by each, without any reference to the value of the contributions of the particular patients. Provision is made in the scheme for permitting doctors to attend to both private and provident patients, and for giving up the latter, if he wishes, at stated periods. It is expected that after the scheme is at work for a time, friendly societies and provident dispensaries will fall in with it.

These are, it will be understood, proposals, and that they are capable of realisation we do not question; but not at present. The scheme will serve, however, to impress upon medical practitioners the desirability of instituting some other system of charging than that which they now adopt. The working classes are sufficiently well looked after in this matter, but those immediately above them who have to wear black coats and live in villas feel doctors' charges most keenly, and would welcome such a change as would bring about an annual payment. This has been advocated by some medical men, and the Doctors' Union scheme is an elaboration of the idea. If any proposal of the kind is carried out it will affect the custom of dispensing by doctors, as they will find a scheme of medical attendance, exclusive of medicine, to be the best course for them. If that should be a result, nobody will be more thankful for it than dispensing chemists.

#### RAT-CAKE.

There is room for action on the part of the powers that be regarding the sale of poisonous rat-cake. Several children have been poisoned by it in the East-end of London lately; indeed, in one week eleven suffered from poisoning after eating some cake which they had picked up on the street, and two of them died. Later, another girl died, and a few weeks ago a seaman died from the same cause. The Coroner of West Ham is now investigating the death of a girl of 8 who, it is supposed, picked up a piece of rat-cake somewhere. The Acts in regard to poisoned grain and flesh do not appear to touch cake, but it would be interesting to know who sells the stuff. It contains arsenic.

#### SHIPS' MEDICINE-CHESTS.

The *Liverpool Journal of Commerce* has been looking over the Board of Trade's medicine-scale for ships, and is horrified. Amongst other strong things, the *Journal* says:—

A number of practically useless medicines appear in the scale, while many medicines in common daily use by every doctor are omitted. Thus, slacked lime has to be carried in quantity sufficient to make nearly 30 gallons of lime-water, while there is not a drop of chlorodyne. Three ounces of camphor are supplied, probably to keep moth from the surgeon's wardrobe; while there is not a grain of rhubarb or of magnesia for a child requiring those familiar corrective medicines, not a seidlitz-powder, nor the materials for making one. It is strictly laid down that all pills are to be coated with gelatine, doubtless in order to make them stick into a mass in hot damp weather; and that all bottles shall have glass stoppers, to jump out or to stick tight and be broken off, instead of the common but effective cork so much preferable in at least nine cases out of ten. As we go on we stumble over endless blunders. We find vaseline decorated with the elegant name of "Salvo Petrolia," and specified as soft paraffin, without a thought of the well-known fact that it, as well as most of the seven other ointments ordered, will run into fluid oil as soon as the ship gets into the tropics for want of being hardened with a due proportion of paraffin-wax. We find "sublimated wood-wool" for antiseptic dressing, but not a scrap of the common absorbent cotton-wool so constantly used in every surgery.

It is in view of the recent revision that the *Journal* makes these comments, and we are astonished that the extent of the revision is not referred to. It consisted of changing "chloric ether" to "spirit of chloroform." The medical advisers of the Board are probably not aware that these are synonymous terms for a pharmacopœial preparation.

#### STERILISED MILK.

Dairymen are not in love with sterilised milk because it looks so "thin." The same complaint is made against sterilised cream. A remedy for this has been found by Professors Babcock and Russell, of Wisconsin, in a saccharated solution of lime, which they call "viscogen," on account of its viscous-producing powers. Viscogen contains from 25 to 30 per cent. of sugar (as syrup) and from 5 to 6 per cent. of lime, and it is said to do its work well, especially as an addition to cream. A quantity of the solution equivalent to an ounce of lime is sufficient for 16 gallons of cream.

#### FOR THIS RELIEF, MUCH THANKS.

A Liverpool hair-doctor puts it differently. He sells a liniment which "cures dropsy, rheumatism, ulcerated throats, asthma, stiff neck, lumbago, weak ankles, gumbolls, neuralgia, ear and face ache, quinsy, numbness," and a dozen other troubles, all neatly arranged in two columns. Under the first column, which comprises the above-named troubles, the users of the stuff are thus enjoined:—"When cure has been obtained, remember to thank the Lord for it." The second lot of disorders appear not to require this, for the inventor and patentee puts under them:—"In malignant cases external and internal — must be used."

#### SCHEDULING OF CARBOLIC ACID.

Commenting upon the Privy Council's letter regarding the scheduling of carbolic acid, the *British Medical Journal* says there is reason to hope that something may now be done to prevent the continuance of an evil that has become so conspicuous. In regard to the use of carbolic acid for sanitary purposes, it might be urged that, however great its advantages, the sacrifice of so many lives every year is too high a price to pay for them, so that on this ground alone the sale of such a dangerous article in teacups or ginger-beer bottles at all kinds of shops, and without any precautionary measures to prevent misuse, should not be allowed. But there are even stronger reasons for urging that the sale of carbolic acid should be subjected to the restrictions of the Pharmacy Act as being one of the most dangerous poisons. The proposed restriction of the sale of the concentrated acid need not in any degree interfere with the free use of the article for purposes of sanitation.

#### THE "SPECTATOR" ON TRUSTS.

The *Spectator* has something to say about the John D. Park & Sons' Company's case against the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, which it regards from the point of view of trusts. The case is an extreme one, says our contemporary, "because it is clear that a trust of the kind is, or may be, playing with human life. It does not matter much if they raise the price of patent medicines, which seems to have been the specific grievance, to a guinea a drop; but suppose they put drugs like quinine, opium, or the aperients out of the reach of the poor. It will be remembered that Mr. Bryan's followers place the trust system in the forefront of their charges against capital, and cases like this give them an argumentative foothold, all the more effective because ordinary Americans are very nearly crazy about drugs. They suffer from depression, and take to medicine as a remedy, as Northern Europeans take to alcohol." This is a way of looking at the matter almost foreign to us, but we are none the worse for "seeing ourselves as others see us."

“CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,” PLEASE QUOTE.”

The following conversation between a young pharmaceutical chemist and a customer shows the extent of their English, says “Medico” in the *British Journal of Photography*:—

A customer asked the chemist if he had any good vinegar, and where he got it last it was poor, although called 40's. The chemist assured him his was very good, being elevens. The customer, knowing a little about specific gravity, could not understand how a vinegar of specific gravity 1.015 could be better than 1.052, but took it, and found it very good; next time he asked the chemist if he was sure it was elevens, and he said yes, quite sure—he would show him the invoice; and, lo and behold! on seeing the invoice it was by Hill Evans, the well-known makers—a good specimen of silent H.

We trust we have satisfied “Medico” by giving wider publicity to his wit; at any rate, we are glad of this evidence that photographers have such a poor case against chemists that they find it necessary to abuse the defendant.

“GOLD BUG” v. “SILVER BUG.”

The momentous day when issue between McKinley and gold and Bryan and silver will be declared is drawing near, and in the course of next month the intense party feeling that now divides the male population of the United States will begin to abate. At present nothing but politics is talked in the States. The general feeling in New York seems to be that Bryan hasn't a chance, but the enthusiasm of the silver man's following and the practical solidarity of the South and West in his favour may yet go near towards carrying Mr. Bryan to the White House. Some of our New York drug contemporaries have taken a touch of the political fever. The *New York Shipping List*, which is violently on the “sound money” side, has converted itself for the time being into a “campaign leaflet,” publishing week by week letters from its subscribers, including many prominent New York wholesale druggists, in denunciation of Mr. Bryan. The New York Drug Club, of which Mr. Geo. J. Seabury is President, is also taking an unusually active part on the McKinleyite side. An American correspondent sends us a boxful of “campaign buttons” and other party favours, such as almost every politician in the States now wears in his buttonhole or scarf. These badges are, it appears, largely sold by American pharmacists, along with the usual pharmaceutical specialities, such as soda-fountain drinks wall-paper, and blacking. The badges mostly bear the portraits of one of the sets of candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency. The Democratic and Republican candidates are as like as two peas in appearance, and are both draped in an enamelled Stars-and-Stripes. But they may be distinguished by their mottoes, and especially by the different shape of the Vice-Presidential candidates' moustaches. McKinley is all for “Protection and Sound Money”; Bryan has a variety of mottoes, “No Cross of Gold, No Crown of Thorns” and “Sixteen to One” being the leading ones. The favours also include a nice set of pins in the shape of gold and silver ladybirds, whose backs are decorated with the American flag. One is the McKinleyite “gold bug,” the other the Bryanite “silver bug.” As we hesitate to take the responsibility of turning the scale in the Presidential contest, we refrain from saying which of the two bugs we think the nicer.

**GELATINE-COATED PILLS.**—We described two years ago the method by which Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. coat pills with gelatine. The pills are held by a suction-machine invented by an old employé of the firm, which invention they purchased. The machine was patented. Recently another one has come into the market, and this Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. declare is an infringement of their patent. Legal proceedings against several Detroit firms are pending.

## I Boots' Circular.

THE following circular has this week been received by most of the proprietors of patent medicines and wholesale dealers therein. It emanates from “Island Street, Nottingham, September, 1896.”:—

GENTLEMEN,

### Re PROPRIETARY ARTICLES TRADE ASSOCIATION.

As you may have noticed the strongly antagonistic position we have taken to this Association, we think it due to ourselves to explain frankly why we have done this, and also to point out that from a manufacturer's point of view there is much to be said in favour of keeping the trade free and open as against any system of restriction.

From a manufacturer's point of view.

Some few manufacturers of proprietary medicines may hardly be aware how far the patent-medicine trade has passed out of the hands of the regular old-fashioned, high-priced chemists, though I think nearly all keen observers of the times must have noticed it. My opinion, based not only on our business, but on an extensive acquaintance with nearly every town of any size in England, and to some degree in Scotland, is that three-fourths of the trade is done by stores and pushing firms. This view is amply supported by facts embodied in Editorial Comments on the Revenue Reports contained in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of August 29, 1896, from which it appears that 31,592 licences for the sale of patent medicines were issued during the year ending March 31, 1896—that is to say, there must be twice as many licences issued to persons who are not chemists and druggists as to persons who are. The increase in licences has been at the average rate of 1,100 per annum during the last ten years, and this is almost entirely due to licences issued to firms doing business on progressive lines. For years letters have now and again appeared in the trade journals urging the manufacturers to raise the prices of their (say) 1s. 1½d. articles to 12s. per dozen, not with any view of benefiting the manufacturer, but to do away with the object-lesson (taught by comparing face values with the prices at which they are sold by progressive firms) of the profits there have been in the drug-trade.

We have noticed that a firm of manufacturers who have lately compelled retailers to raise their prices to 1/- per box say that they have had many letters of thanks from chemists. I do not doubt this, and if they would raise their prices to 1/1½d. they would have still louder thanks from some section of the trade, but not from the section who are doing the business for them, but from those who are anxious that the business should be destroyed if it cannot be transferred to them.

I am sure from my very large and long experience of the patent-medicine trade that any rise in prices, after the public have for a long series of years been accustomed to a reduced price, will have a most detrimental effect on sales. Those who are raising their prices had better wait, say, a couple of years before they can really judge of the effect. Hitherto there has been no organised opposition to prices being advanced, but now progressive firms find that a concerted scheme for forcing them to raise prices is being attempted they will naturally do their best in self defence to thwart any such plan. This cannot but have an adverse influence on the sales, though it may not show itself immediately. Temporarily the demand might even seem to increase—for instance, the sales of the articles at present scheduled by the Proprietary Articles Trade Association have no doubt been swelled by the purchases of firms like ourselves who have bought large stocks in anticipation of any difficulty there might be in procuring future supplies.

From our point of view.

The whole secret of the present agitation is that the old-fashioned traders amongst the chemists have all along been so terribly annoyed at the great difference shown in the prices of firms doing a cash store trade and the old-fashioned prices, that they most ardently wish them to be raised to

the full face value of the various articles, that is 1/1½ for 1/1½ article and 2/9 for a 2/9 article. That is simply because the sale of proprietary articles has so largely passed out of their hands that they would much rather see the trade destroyed altogether than carried on under the reformed system of prices.

Being one of the largest firms (if not the largest in the kingdom) dealing in proprietary articles mostly sold by chemists, we think it grossly unfair to ourselves as large vendors that prices should be suddenly raised to the public without some explanation. The public would naturally infer that we, having first obtained a splendid business by our low prices, are now raising them to the level of those of ordinary retailers, therefore I feel, in justice to ourselves, that in future on any articles that are raised in price we must put a label to tell the public that the makers are raising the price, and not ourselves. Hitherto we have borne the odium of raised prices, but I think this is quite unfair to us, and in future we must let the public know the real reason of the advance. They should be made acquainted with the fact that prices are raised simply because pressure has been put upon the manufacturers by a section of the retail trade of whom it may be said they have too many nostrums of their own, and are too well up in counter-prescribing to ever be satisfied with, say, 2d in the 1s. profit.

Why should any ordinary chemist sell Blank's Liver Pills at 1/- a box costing him 10d., when if he sells three-pennyworth of his own make he will clear 2½d? Nothing less than half profit would induce the average chemist to push other men's medicines, so it is not at all the question whether an article costing 9d. or 10d. is sold for 9½d. or 1/-, for as the Secretary of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association remarked that if they are allowed 10% profit they will merely take 10% interest in the article, and only if they are allowed 50% profit will they take 50% interest in its sale. The worst substitutors in the trade are the smallest men, who, having any amount of time on their hands and very little capital, are too glad, as I have said before, to sell twopennyworth or three pennyworth of their nostrums in the place of a proprietary article.

On the other hand, large firms are too busy to push their own goods to anything like the same extent, and, moreover, they know very well that indiscriminate and too zealous pushing would be injurious to their own interests, whereas the business ideas of ordinary chemists are too retail to do justice to the demand for proprietary goods at any such limited percentage of profit as 2d in the shilling.

I wished to lay my view of the case fully and frankly before you, and I think I have also shown that there are substantial reasons why manufacturers should decline to support the Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

Yours faithfully,

JESSE BOOT, Managing Director, Boots (Limited).

[The passages in black type are similarly emphasised in the original.]

## New Books.

Clowes, F. and Coleman, J. *Elementary Quantitative Analysis*. 4s. 6d. (J. & A. Churchill.)

Colyer, J. F., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.D.S. *Extraction of the Teeth*. Crown 8vo. Pp. 162. Cloth. 3s. 6d. (London: Claudius Ash & Sons, Limited.)

Cullingworth, C. J. *A Short Manual for Monthly Nurses*. Fourth edit. Fcap. 8vo. 1s. 6d. (J. & A. Churchill.)

Domville, Edward J. *A Manual for Hospital Nurses and others Engaged in Attending on the Sick, with Recipes for Sick-room Cookery, and a Glossary*. 8th edit. Pp. 120. Cloth. Cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. (J. & A. Churchill.)

Gattermann, Professor Ludwig. *The Practical Methods of Organic Chemistry*. With numerous illustrations. Translated by William B. Shober, Ph.D., Instructor in Organic Chemistry in the Lehigh University. Authorised translation. Pp. xii (inc. 1 blank) + 330. Cr. 8vo. 8s. 6d.

Halliburton, Professor W. D., F.R.S. *Kirke's Handbook of Physiology*. 14th edit. With over 600 illustrations. Cr. 8vo. Cloth. Pp. xviii + 851. 14s. (John Murray.)

Heger, Dr. Hans (Editor). *Apotheker bilder von Nah und Fern (Pharmacy Pictures at Home and Abroad)*. (Office of the Pharmaceutische Post, Vienna.)

## The Chemist and his Cases.

AN inquest was held at Pennance, Gwennap, on Monday, by Mr. E. L. Cariyon, relative to the death of Annie Frances Martin, aged 11, who died on Sunday. The Coroner stated that it was reported the girl died of diphtheria, and that the only person who had seen her in a medical capacity was a Mr. Howe, chemist, Redruth.

Jane Martin, mother of the deceased, deposed that on Sunday, September 20, Annie became unwell, and on Friday she sent for Mr. Rowe, who lived at Redruth, and was a doctor. She had him when her little boy was ill, and no other medical advice was obtained, Dr. Rowe giving a certificate that her son died from inflammation of the brain. She described how Mr. Rowe had visited the girl. He examined her throat, and painted her neck, but did not take her temperature. The patient continued to get worse, though she gave the medicine Mr. Rowe sent, and applied poultices. She gradually sank until Sunday evening, when she died. On their sending to Mr. Rowe for a certificate he asked them to supply the age of the child and how long she had been ill.

Mrs. Jane Tregilgas, another witness, was of the opinion that Mr. Rowe was a doctor.

Mr. Sampson Taylor Rowe stated that he was a chemist,\* of Redruth, and held no diploma as a surgeon or physician. His doctor's degree was that of a doctor in science. He was a surgeon-dentist, and a pharmaceutical chemist. When deceased's mother called she said the little girl was suffering from a cold, and was feverish, with a sore throat. He made up an ordinary fever-mixture and a powder. He knew her constitution, and had often prescribed without seeing her. Later in the evening, by request, he visited her, and found her in a state of collapse. Her throat was extensively ulcerated, and her breath very offensive. There was congestion of both lungs and acute laryngitis. There was also a slight appearance of diphtheria throat, though not from blood-poisoning, but from congestion of the lungs. He put a fly-onster to each side of the throat, with the idea of reducing the inflammation. He ordered them to apply nitrate of silver to the throat with a brush, but she was too far gone for that. The patient could not have stood steaming. From the first he saw that there was no chance for the child.

The Coroner: When you saw the critical condition in which she was, did it not occur to you that somebody else ought to be called in?—Witness: Yes; but before anyone could have come she would have been dead. I did not suggest calling in anyone because it would have been hopeless. Whenever I get a severe case I always call in a medical man. Her temperature on Saturday was nearly 103°.

The Coroner: Is it not very important that the temperature should be watched?—Witness: Yes, as a rule; but in a collapsing case I don't think it matters much. Mr. Rowe added that he scarcely expected to find the child alive on the Saturday morning. He was not sufficient surgeon to perform an operation. It did not strike him that he was taking upon himself a very serious responsibility in not calling in someone else. When he saw the patient on Saturday he was absolutely certain that the case was mortal, and that he could not do any good if he was there every hour. When death took place he usually gave a paper, stating that he certified the person died of a certain disease, and signed his name. It was his practice to instruct them to take these to the registrar, who accepted them. It never occurred to him that he had no authority to give such certificates. Once his authority was questioned, action having been brought against him by the Apothecaries' Society, but the result was a nonsuit. It had since been settled for all time that a qualified surgeon-dentist, or qualified chemist, could practise medicine. When he had a case of infectious disease he reported the fact to the medical officer of health individually, but never filled out the form provided for by the Act of 1869. He had treated pretty well every kind of disease in his time. This child died from congestion of the lungs and laryngitis, and not from diphtheria. He had had

\* Registered as having been in business before 1868.

cases of diphtheria, not long ago being called to one at East End, Redruth. Then he had a second opinion. No doctor in Redruth would go in consultation with him. He referred the patients to medical gentlemen who had the good sense to cast their prejudices aside. If they did not he should get a qualified assistant down at once. He did not charge for visits, but for medicine, and for horse hire when journeys were long.

The Coroner then addressed the jury, severely commenting upon Mr. Rowe's conduct. He considered that if Mr. Rowe was negligent by not calling in proper medical aid, and that in consequence the child's death was accelerated, they must bring in a verdict of manslaughter. He wished it to be understood that no registrar in his division was to accept the certificate of an unqualified man. One of the registrars had told him that he had registered many a death on Mr. Rowe's certificate. That was entirely improper and must not occur.

The jury held a short deliberation, and the inquest was adjourned until Thursday, in order that Dr. Permewan might be requested to make a *post mortem* examination.

Up to the moment of going to press we have not received a report of the adjourned inquest.

## Marrriages.

**BROWN—PERCY.**—On September 16, at St. Andrew's, Plymouth, by Rev. D. P. Hatchard, Joseph Brown, of London, youngest son of Joseph Brown, Penrith, Cumberland, to Mildred Mary, youngest daughter of Mr. T. B. Percy, chemist and druggist, Plymouth and Truro.

**GREENHOUGH—MILLER.**—On September 29, at St. John's Church, Lewisham High Road, S.E., by the vicar, the Rev. R. W. Atkinson, George David Greenhough, son of Mr. D. W. Greenhough, of St. John's and 5 Rood Lane, E.C., to Helen Beatrice, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Miller, of St. John's.

**GRIMWADE—THORNTON.**—On August 19, at St. John's Church of England, Camperdown, Geelong, Vic., Mr. Harold W. Grimwade, of Felton, Grimwade & Co., Melbourne (son of the Hon. F. S. Grimwade, M.L.C.), to Winifred, daughter of Mr. John Thornton, Camperdown.

**PHILLIPS—JONES.**—At St. Elvan's Church, Aberdare, on September 24, by the Rev. C. H. H. Green, Captain W. D. Phillips, son of Colonel Thomas Phillips, to Alice, second daughter of Mr. David William Jones, chemist and druggist, Aberdare.

**ROSE—CULVERHOUSE.**—On September 23, at Christ Church, Brondesbury, by the Rev. J. C. Farmborough, uncle of the bridegroom, assisted by the rector, the Rev. C. Dale Williams, Francis Rose, pharmaceutical chemist, Ramsgate, to Gertrude Emma, granddaughter of the late Mr. John Culverhouse, of Burcott House, Brondesbury.

**SHEPHERD—ELLIS.**—On September 21, at Church of Holy Ascension, Settle, by the Rev. R. C. Garnett, assisted by the Rev. A. F. Mitchell, Mr. John W. Shepherd, pharmaceutical chemist, Settle, to Miss Mary Ellis, second daughter of Mr. F. Ellis.

**TAYLOR—OGDEN.**—On September 23, at St. Anne's Congregational Church, Blackpool, by the Rev. W. Elstob, Mr. J. H. Taylor, chemist and druggist, St. Anne's, to Miss Minnie Ogden.

## Deaths.

**BREBBER.**—On September 18, Mr. George Forbes Brebber, chemist and druggist, Newbigging, Towie, N.B.

**COCKSHOTT.**—On September 14, Mr. William Cockshott, chemist and druggist, Bradford, Yorks. Aged 80.

**CRUICKSHANK.**—At Union Road, Macduff, on September 19, Mr. John Cruickshank, chemist. Aged 75. Mr. Cruickshank began business in Macduff nearly sixty years ago.

**KEEVILL.**—On September 16, Mr. Robert Keevill, pharmaceutical chemist, Bath. Aged 56.

**MCCONNELL.**—The death occurred at Calcutta, on August 24, of Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. P. McConnell, Professor of Materia Medica in the Calcutta Medical College. This professorship is one of the prizes of the Indian Medical Service, of which the deceased gentleman was an eminent member. He was one of the Commission appointed by the Government of India some time ago on the subject of indigenous drugs.

**ROHRWEGER.**—In Mr. Julius Charles Rohrweger, who died on September 27 at his residence, 9 Clarendon Gardens, Maida Vale, N.W., in his 82nd year, the last of the foreign druggists who settled in this country before the middle of the century and established flourishing businesses has passed away. Mr. Rohrweger was a native of Nuremberg, in Southern Germany, and learned the drug-trade, it is believed, in the wholesale firm of Miller & Co. in that city. At an early age he appears to have gone to Stuttgart, and to have had some connection with the firm of Jobst & Co., the quinine-manufacturers, but, as none of Mr. Rohrweger's contemporaries of those days survive, it cannot be ascertained in what capacity, he was connected with that house. Mr. Rohrweger emigrated to England in the early forties and entered the firm of David Satow & Co., of Love Lane, Eastcheap, then the principal drug-house in the Russian trade. After a short time Mr. Rohrweger set up in business for himself in Mark Lane as an export-druggist. The trade to which the deceased gentleman devoted himself was then, at any rate so far as export to the Continent was concerned, in very few hands, and as London was practically the only centre of distribution for non-European drugs, the business was naturally a very profitable one. Of the firms who competed with Mr. Rohrweger in those days, but had been founded before his own, we believe that those of August Faber & Co. and Aug. & Geo. Fischer are the only ones now remaining. Mr. Rohrweger was exceedingly successful, and gradually the operations of his firm extended all over the world. The importation of musk, rhubarb, and other Chinese drugs became one of the specialties of his house, and continued so until within recent years. There were many drugs in which Mr. Rohrweger used to have a practical monopoly. He also did a large business as buying-agent for a continental firm of quinine-manufacturers, and dealt extensively in oils and "Baltic" goods. Mr. Rohrweger rapidly made a fortune, which is said to have been greatly increased at the time of the American Civil War, when the house carried on a very profitable business with the Northern States. During the past forty years Mr. Rohrweger's firm occupied an old and somewhat dark house in Fen Court, Fenchurch Street. That house, which has been demolished within the past two years to give way to a modern building, figures (possibly unknown to any of its former occupants) in a well-known novel, for it was there that the hero of Mrs. J. H. Riddell's "George Geith of Fen Court" was supposed to have his offices. A few years ago Mr. Rohrweger retired from active business, and shortly afterwards the drug branch of the business was transferred to another firm. The oil-trade branch remained, but in the course of the last three years the firm has ceased to exist. No man in Mincing Lane was more justly popular than Mr. Rohrweger, and none will be more sincerely regretted by those who knew him well. His liberality was proverbial. Himself always upright in business, he judged all men by his own standard, and often paid dearly for his confidence. His public and private benefactions during his business career must have amounted to a small fortune. At one time Mr. Rohrweger was very wealthy, but during the last ten years he had great money losses. The funeral took place on Thursday at Loughton, Essex, where the deceased formerly had a large residence. Fifteen years ago, had Mr. Rohrweger died then, the drug-sales would, perhaps, have been postponed in token of respect, and references would certainly have been made to the event by some of the prominent members of the trade. At Thursday's auctions, however, no word was spoken in public.

## Up-to-date Nobelties.

By G. H. DUBELLE.

*Eucalyptic Shampoo.*

(An Ideal Hair-wash.)

|                                   | Oz. |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Glycerine of borax .. .. .        | 2   |
| Esprit menthol .. .. .            | 2   |
| Solution of ammonia .. .. .       | 3   |
| Extract of roses .. .. .          | 3   |
| Fluid extract of quilla'a .. .. . | 5   |
| Esprit eucalyptus .. .. .         | 10  |
| French rose-water .. .. .         | 15  |

Mix. Allow to stand for twenty-four hours, then filter.

*Her Majesty's Pink.*

(A Sweet Perfume.)

|                                   | Oz.           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Esprit rose .. .. .               | 8             |
| Extract of orange-flowers .. .. . | 4             |
| Extract of cassie .. .. .         | 4             |
| Esprit vanillin .. .. .           | 2             |
| Essence of cloves .. .. .         | 1             |
| Tincture of musk .. .. .          | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Tincture of sautal .. .. .        | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Esprit ylang-ylang .. .. .        | $\frac{1}{2}$ |

Mix and filter.

*Tuxedo Heliotrope.*

|                               | Oz. |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Rectified spirit .. .. .      | 70  |
| Esprit rose .. .. .           | 10  |
| Extract of tuberose .. .. .   | 10  |
| Extract of jasmin .. .. .     | 5   |
| Tincture of ambergris .. .. . | 1   |
| Tincture of musk .. .. .      | 1   |
| Heliotropin .. .. .           | 1   |
| Esprit vanillin .. .. .       | 1   |
| Esprit cumarin .. .. .        | 1   |

Mix and filter.

*Marzakola.*

(A Splendid Tonic.)

|                                     | Oz.             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Fluid extract of Angostura .. .. .  | $\frac{1}{2}$   |
| Fluid extract of kola .. .. .       | 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Comp. tincture of cinchona .. .. .  | 5               |
| Comp. tincture of cardamoms .. .. . | 5               |
| Blood-orange syrup .. .. .          | 10              |
| Port wine .. .. .                   | 30              |
| Sherry wine .. .. .                 | 50              |

Mix. Set aside for twenty-four hours, then filter.

*Odontol.*

|                                           | Oz.             |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Precipitated chalk .. .. .                | 50              |
| Powd. white Castile soap .. .. .          | 20              |
| Powd.orris-root .. .. .                   | 20              |
| Rose honey .. .. .                        | 20              |
| Powd. alizarin lake .. .. .               | 10              |
| Powd. pumice .. .. .                      | 10              |
| Mandarin-orange oil .. .. .               | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Mitcham peppermint oil .. .. .            | 1               |
| Oil of rose .. .. .                       | $\frac{1}{2}$   |
| French rose-water enough to form a paste. |                 |

*Aurora Blush.*

(A Modern Toilet Requisite for Colouring the Cheeks)

|                           | Oz.             |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Erythrosin .. .. .        | $\frac{1}{2}$   |
| Glycerine .. .. .         | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Esprit rose .. .. .       | 30              |
| French rose-water .. .. . | 70              |

Dissolve the colour in the water, add the glycerine and perfume, and filter.

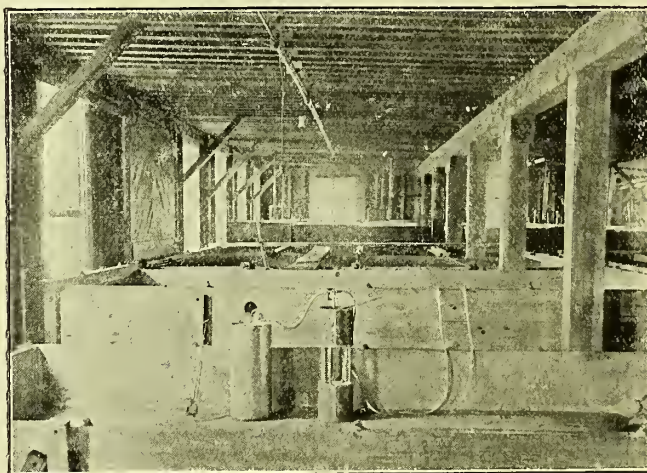
This preparation will impart to the cheeks and lips that aurora-like hue so much admired.

THE EDME MALT EXTRACT carried off all the prizes at the Bakers' Exhibition, receiving a silver medal and diploma, and the gold medal and championship for the best bread in the show (open competition).

## Niagara Chlorate of Potash.

MR. O. E. DUNLAP describes, in a recent issue of the *Electrician*, the works of the Chemical Construction Company at Niagara Falls, which are now, he states, in operation. The company have leased 8 acres of land, which includes permission to use 4,000 h.p. of electricity; but at present they have built but three workshops on a small portion of the land, and are using 500 h.p. They are making chlorates by the Blumbenberg process, and propose to make chloroform and iodoform later on.

In making chlorate of potash, the process is started by dissolving the chloride in five tanks of 3,000 gallons capacity. From these tanks the solution is pumped by steam to the upper floor of the main building, where it passes through filters, and then into a storage-tank of 4,000 gallons capacity. From this tank the solution is tapped off for use in the pot-room on the same floor. The main switchboard controlling the flow of the electric current is on the east side of the building and above the transformer-room. In addition to this main switch, each pot has a switch by which it can be thrown in or out of circuit. There are sixty pots, 8 feet long and 4 feet or 5 feet wide, made of iron and lined with porcelain.



The pots are all insulated one from the other, and also from the floor. In these pots the chloride solution is decomposed, forming the chlorate, which is allowed to run down to the first floor into porcelain-lined crystallising tanks or pans, then into lead-lined pans, and finally into wooden pans, shown in the above illustration, after which it is shovelled up and thrown into a centrifugal dryer. It is next placed in the dry room, where the remaining moisture is removed, after which it goes into the packing-room, where it is put up in 100-lb. kegs and sealed for shipment. From the time the chloride solution enters the pot-room to the time the chlorate is ready for shipment about twenty-four hours elapse. The present capacity of the plant is about one ton of chlorate of potash per day.

Mr. Dunlap describes the electrical equipment, and adds that chlorate of potash is now made by three electrical processes—namely, those employed by Gall and Montlauer, of France; by Franchot & Gibbs, of Buckingham (Canada); and Blumbenberg's process employed by the Chemical Construction Company.

SEVERAL soap-factories have lately been started in Norway. One of them is for fine toilet-soaps. It belongs to Mr. Ole Svendsen, of Sandnes, near Stavanger.

A QUARTER IN QUEER STREET.—According to *Kemp's Mercantile Gazette*, the number of failures in England and Wales gazetted during the quarter ending Saturday, September 26, was 982, a decrease of 54 over last year. Nineteen chemists and druggists have figured in the lists.

## Trade Reports.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., October 1.

THE week has been characterised by a decidedly brisker tone in business all round. So far as the drug and chemical trades are concerned, orders, we hear, are coming in much more freely, both for home and for export, and there is a reasonable prospect of a well-sustained autumn trade. There have been several changes in prices, mostly in an upward direction, but the most notable price-fluctuations have been in articles only partly connected with the drug-trade proper. To-day's drug-auctions were very lengthy and fairly animated. The sixteen catalogues comprised an aggregate of 1,581 lots, of which 872 lots changed hands during the sale, the total being largely made up by vanilla and new-crop Tinevelly senna. Turning to details, we have to report a weaker market and fractionally lower prices for citric and tartaric acids. Carbolic and oxalic acids are quiet and steady. Quinine unchanged. Permanganate of potash has again been raised in price by the manufacturers. Cream of tartar steady. Cinchonidine in demand at higher rates. Heavy chemicals, especially sodas and potashes, are unaltered. Chlorate of potash is weak. In borax an early decline is anticipated in some quarters. Phenacetin dull. Sulphur tending firmer. In the drug-market we have to report a considerable advance in asafetida. Cape aloes slightly easier for good qualities; Curaçao neglected. Balsam copaiba firm. Siam benzoin rather easier; good Sumatra steady. Buchu-leaves steady. Crude camphor is firm, but without much business. Cubebs quite neglected, and barely maintained in price. Calumba firm. Cascara sagrada offers cheaply. Cascarella somewhat firm. Cardamoms in request at an average advance of about 3d. Castorum sold well to-day. Gam elemi again easier. Ergot of rye steady. Gamboge rather firmer. Gentian in better request. Tolu balsam is dearer, and honey has also an upward tendency. Castor oil is dearer all round. Cod-liver oil and saffron very firm. Tragacanth has been in more demand at easier rates. Menthol is steadier. Chamomiles firm. Ipecacuanha steadier for Brazilian. Gam kino neglected. Musk rather easier. Opium tending downwards for druggists' and manufacturing kinds. Star-anise oil barely maintained. Cassia unchanged. Citronella slightly firmer. Japanese peppermint firmer. Eucalyptus oil in better request. Orris-root tending higher. Senna sold well for ordinary qualities. Jamaica sarsaparilla firmly held. In drysalteries, oils, &c., the following are the principal changes:—Japan wax has risen to famine-prices; turmeric is much firmer; shellac is also dearer. In spices there has been an advance in cassia lignea; nutmegs and mace rather easier; cloves flat; chillies lower; Cochin ginger easier; Chinese galls very firm; linseed, rape and cotton seed oil are firm; turpentine is advancing rapidly. The Bank rate remains at 3 per cent., and bar silver is unchanged, at 30½d. per oz.

Our Amsterdam correspondent, telegraphing on Thursday evening, states that of the 5,365 packages of Java cinchona offered at auction to-day, 4,338 sold at the average unit of 2.55c. per half-kilo, being the same as that of the previous auctions. The English and American manufacturers were the largest buyers, the equivalent of 755 kilos. of sulphate of quinine being taken by them. The Auerbach Factory purchased 4,121 kilos, the Brunswick Factory 1,864 kilos, the Mannheim and Amsterdam

Factories 3,903 kilos., the Frankfort-on-Maine and Stuttgart Factories 2,774, and various buyers 3,702 kilos. The following are the range of prices:—*Manufacturing barks*, 3½c. to 37¼c. (equal to 5½d. to 5½d. per lb.); *Druggists' barks*, 9¼c. to 95¼c. (equal to 1½d. to 1s. 5d. per lb).

Our Hamburg correspondent telegraphs on Thursday evening:—"There is a general advance here in the price of  
Hamburg Castor oil, Ergot of rye, Star-anise oil, and Star-  
Telegram. aniseed, while the Turpentine market is excited.  
Refined camphor, however, is quieter, at 3.20m. per kilo."

Our New York correspondent wires on Thursday afternoon: "*Tolu balsam* is scarce and dearer, from 75c. to 80c. per lb American being now asked and readily paid for good Cablegram. quality. There has also been an advance in *Star anise oil*, which is quoted at \$235c. per lb. to-day. New crop *Newfoundland cod-liver oil* is selling at rising prices, from 85c. to \$1 per gallon, according to quality. *Senega-root* is also advancing, and good qualities are very scarce at 25c. to 26c. per lb. The drug and chemical market generally is unusually active this week."

ACIDS.—*Citric* dull of sale and rather easier again, 1s. 2d. per lb. is still asked for B.P., but 1s. 1¼d. would probably be accepted. *Concentrated juice* offers at 13l. per pipe, f.o.b. *Tartaric acid* dull of sale and drooping, English B.P. being quoted now at 1s. 2d., while foreign, not guaranteed, offers at 1s. 1¼d. per lb.

ALCOHOL.—*German* potato-spirit, after having been advanced rather briskly, is now a little less firm; good to fine brands in quantity are quoted at 6¾d. to 7¾d., c.i.f. in bond naked, which is equal to from 7½d. to 8½d. landed terms in bond.

ALOES.—*Cape aloes*, of which 46 packages were offered at to-day's auctions, is about 6d. per cwt. lower for good bright qualities, while medium grades were very steady. Thirty-five packages sold at 22s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt. for fair to good bright hard, dull realised 21s., and common drossy and soft 16s. to 18s. per cwt. Of *Socotrine* aloes a parcel of 40 kegs was offered. It retired unsold, however, 80s. per cwt. being asked for good brown soft. *Curaçao* aloes was represented by 260 packages, of which 38 found buyers at easy rates: Ordinary brownish liver 17s., fair capey 13s., low sweepings 6s. per cwt. There has this week been an arrival of 26 packages of *Cape Aloes* from Mossel Bay.

AMMONIA SALTS.—*Sal ammoniac* is steady but unchanged, 37s. for first and 35s. for second quality crystals. *Carbonate* steady, at 3d. per lb. *Phosphate* unaltered, at 10½d. per lb.

ANTIMONY.—Steady; the present quotation for crude Japanese is about 19l. per ton.

ARECA-NUTS.—Sixteen bags were offered to-day, for which 25s. per cwt. is asked, but that figure was not obtainable at auction.

ARSENIC.—Slightly easier, although not yet offering very freely. White powder offers at 23s. per cwt., landed terms.

ASAFETIDA.—It is said that the market has been quietly cleared within the past two or three weeks, and that at present there is scarcely anything to be had, really fine quality being quoted as high as 90s. The crop this year is reported to be extremely small. At auction 38 cases were offered, of which only 3 sold at 67s. 6d. per cwt. for fair grey pinky block, softish, and rather stony mixed. This shows a considerable advance. When the parcel was landed in February, this variety was valued at 47s. 6d. per cwt., but since then a much lower figure has been accepted for similar gum.

BALSAMS.—The spot price of *Peru* balsam was quoted erroneously in our last issue at 7s.; it should have been

7s. 6d. per lb. There has been a strong demand for *Tolu* balsam this week, and the stock is now extremely small. Sales have been made at from 2s. 10d. up to 3s. per lb. for genuine quality, and there would be further buyers at the last-named figure, but nothing appears to be available. At auction 3 casks good opaque *Maranham copaiba* were bought in at 2s. per lb., and 1 cask of thin red balsam at 1s. 9d. per lb. Fine grades of *Maranham balsam* are scarce, 1s. 11d. to 1s. 11½d. per lb. being asked privately. At auction 1 barrel of *Canada balsam* was bought in at 1s. per lb. Two cases *Peru balsam* of direct import were bought in, good bright at 8s. (7s. 6d. being the price suggested), and fair unworked at 7s. 3d. per lb.

**BENZOLIN.**—There have recently been heavy arrivals of *Siam gum*, amounting to between 50 and 60 cases, and at to-day's auctions the supply of this variety was very heavy, 97 packages being offered. About 47 of these sold at easier, but on the whole satisfactory, prices. Medium to bold pale detached almonds were bought in at from 18l. to 25l. per cwt. Pea-size drop, fairly free detached, realised 7l. 15s., dull ditto, partly blocky, 7l. 10s.; medium blocky almonds, partly drossy, mixed, at 90s. to 92s. 6d.; blocky pickings, 75s.; brown blocky siftings, 47s. to 48s., and common dark siftings 33s. per cwt. Of *Sumatra gum*, 177 packages were offered, of which 44 sold at full prices for good qualities; good pale second almonds in block realised 8l. 15s.; fair greyish almond seconds, 7l. 17s. 6d.; ordinary brownish, partly almondy, 5l. 5s.; and dull brown thirds, 85s. per cwt. Considerable quantities of *Palembang* and *Penang gum* were offered, but no sales were made of these varieties.

**BLEACHING-POWDER** unaltered, at 7l. 15s. on the spot, and at 7l. f.o.b. (or 6l. 10s. f.o.b., for shipment to the Continent), at Liverpool or on the Tyne. For next year 5s. less all round is quoted.

**BORAX.**—Prices for the present remain unaltered. There is, however, some anticipation that within the near future there may be a further all-round reduction in quotations, as it is reported that an American concern, the Pacific Borax and Redwood's Chemical-works (Limited), intend to throw a quantity of their borax upon the British market.

**BUCHU.**—Another parcel of 11 bales good green leaves was bought in at 3d. per lb.

**CALUMBA.**—A parcel of 1 case so-called "false calumba," in long stalks of yellow colour, from Bombay, was offered to-day as "roots" and bought in, no one making a bid. At auction 15 bags fair yellowish root were shown. They are held for 25s. per cwt. Good washed is privately quoted at 50s.; best cleaned hand-picked yellow at 75s. to 80s. per cwt.

**CAMPHOR (CRUDE).**—Quotations from China are rather firmer—at any rate so far as the importers are concerned; but second-hand holders offer below the importers' rate. No business is reported this week, and quotations vary considerably, the nearest price being from 108s. to 109s. per cwt., c.i.f. October-November for *Formosa gum*. At auction 3 cases *Formosa*, ordinary damp sold at 86s.; sweepings at 70s. per cwt.

**CARDAMOMS.**—In strong demand, with keen competition. At auction 166 cases were all disposed of at an irregular advance, averaging about 3d. per lb., but in some instances much exceeding that figure. The following prices were paid:—*Ceylon-Mysore*, fine pale medium to bold plump, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 8d.; medium fair pale, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 4d.; small to medium yellowish and brown, 3s. to 3s. 2d.; small yellowish, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 11d.; ditto brownish, 2s. 5d.; medium to bold brownish and split, 2s. 8d.; very small pale and dull brown split, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. per lb. *Ceylon-Malabar*, fair round brownish, 3s. 1d. per lb. Seed realised from 3s. 1d. to 3s. 5d. per lb. The exports of cardamoms from Ceylon between January 1 and September 8 amount to 222,095 cwt. *The Wanderer* has brought 39 cases from Ceylon this week.

**CASCARA SAGRADA.**—Sales of a fairly considerable quantity of cascara sagrada are reported privately at 17s. per cwt. At auction 50 bales of good thin bark were offered (20 having been sold privately before the auctions) and bought in, 18s. per cwt. being asked.

**CASCARILLA.**—At to-day's auctions somewhat higher prices were paid, 50 out of 65 offered being sold at 37s. for

good silvery partly broken quill, 22s. for thin small broken dull, and 18s. for common shavings.

**CASTORUM.**—The first arrival of the season's castorum has recently taken place, and 90 lbs. of so-called *Oregon* quality were offered to-day. The bulk sold at prices ranging up to 50s. per lb. for good partly palish seconds of fair flavour; for dry mouldy first and second mixed, 53s. per lb. was refused.

**CHAMOMILES.**—Very firm, at 60s. to 62s. 6d. per cwt. for good *Belgian* of this year's crop.

**CINCHONA.**—The exports of cinchona from Ceylon between January 1 and August 25 have been as follows:—

|         | 1896    | 1895    | 1894      | 1893      |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Lbs. .. | 850,945 | 729,038 | 2,099,043 | 2,831,060 |

A 3-bale lot of badly-damaged flat cultivated *Calisaya*, imported *via* Hamburg, sold at 3d. to 5½d. per lb. to-day.

**CINCHONIDINE** continues to be in strong request. One maker alone has sold 25,000 oz. within the last few days, mostly for export to America, and the market, at any rate, in first-hand, appears to be almost cleared for the moment. The last quotation in tins is from 3½d. per oz. for German.

**COLOCYNTH.**—Fine *Turkish* colocynth remains scarce, and cannot be had below 2s. 9d. per lb. At auction 5 packages good *Spanish* sold at 1s. 6d.; dark ditto, at 7d. per lb. A common lot of *Spanish* was bought in at 1s. 3d. per lb., and 21 cases *Turkey* rather dark mixed, at 3s. per lb.

**CONTINENTAL DRUGS.**—The following are some of the current quotations for continental vegetable drugs. *Belladonna-leaves*, 38s. per cwt.; *Stramonium leaves*, according to condition, from 24s. to 27s.; *Digitalis-leaves*, 30s.; *Henbane-leaves*, 33s.; *Alkanet root*, 29s.; and *Taraxacum-root*, 24s. per cwt. *Celery-seed*, 30s. per cwt.

**CREAM OF TARTAR.**—The market still remains weak, although quotations are scarcely changed. Best white *French* crystals are quoted at 85s., powder at 87s. to 88s. per cwt. The quotation from *Bordeaux* is rather firmer, at 80s. per cwt., f.o.b., for first crystals.

**CUBEBS.**—Quite neglected. A parcel of 31 packages fair berries, not stalky, from Bombay, was bought in. The price suggested is 35s. per cwt. Five bags small, fair, stalky, slightly damaged, berries sold at 25s. per cwt. Of a further supply of 127 bags, 10—bold brown berries, from Singapore, without stalk—realised 25s. per cwt. Cubebs-stalks were apparently unsaleable at any price.

**DRAGON'S-BLOOD.**—Four cases of good bright lump were bought in at 6l. 10s. per cwt. to-day. There were no bids at 5l. 10s. per cwt. Twenty-two cases were bought in, fair dry gum in reed, partly broken, of fair colour, at 9l. 5s.; hard *Singapore* lump, at from 5l. 10s. to 6l. per cwt.

**ELEMI** is again easier. Twenty-two cases fine white gum of good aroma sold to-day, the first lot realising 22s., and remainder declining to 20s. per cwt. for the last lot. Another lot of 20 cases dark and dull gum was bought in to-day, at 25s. per cwt.

**ERGOT OF RYE.**—Only 15 bags of very wormy *Spanish* ergot were shown at auction to-day. The price is 4½d. per lb.

**GALLS.**—*Persian* galls still continue to arrive in some considerable quantities. Holders, nevertheless, refuse to accept lower rates, and buyers generally are holding off. Blue *Bassorah* galls are quoted at from 50s. to 52s.; green, at 41s. to 45s.; sorts, at 48s. to 50s.; and white galls, 37s. to 43s. *Chinese* very firm, at 60s. per cwt. for fair quality. At auction a parcel of ordinary *Smyrna* galls, partly damaged and sweepings, sold at from 22s. to 40s. per cwt.

**GAMBOGE.**—At auction to-day 21 packages were offered. Twelve sold at rather better prices—viz., 7l. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for fair blocky pipe, partly of fair partly of drossy character; 7l. 7s. 6d. for fair pickings; and 8l. 15s. for fair medium pipe, partly blocky, good and drossy mixed.

**GENTIAN** remains firm at the recently-increased quotations. Powdered root is quoted at from 18s. 6d. to 21s., f.o.b., according to holder. For good root 22s. to 23s. per cwt. is now asked, although sales were recently made at 18s. 6d. per cwt.

**GLYCERINE.**—Crude glycerine has again improved and recovered its recent high position, while the tendency is said to be still upward. The makers of refined glycerine are correspondingly firm, but the demand so far remains quiet.

**GUM ACACIA.**—A very quiet market, both for picked *Trieste* gum and *Soudan* sorts, although the holders of the latter kind seem to be a little firmer in their views. There is still a good inquiry for so-called insoluble *Persian* gum, but the high rates asked prevent business. Only common to fair sorts having changed hands, at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. per cwt.; good sorts are held at 15s. to 16s., reddish picked at 16s. to 18s., and fine picked at 20s. to 22s. per cwt. At auction considerable quantity of picked *Trieste* gum was offered, but no sales were effected with the exception of one case, small to medium brownish picked which realised 7l. per cwt.

**HONEY.**—Firmly held for good qualities. New crop *Italian* is quoted at 33s., while old of fair quality may be had at 31s. per cwt. At auction 12 packages *Jamaican* honey sold well to-day, ordinary dull dark liquid to fair brown realising from 20s. to 23s. per cwt. Privately as much as 28s. per cwt. is asked for good clean candied *Jamaica* honey. Of *Honolulu* 27 cases brownish candied rather dull sold to-day at 21s. 6d. to 22s. per cwt., and 50 barrels *Chilian* fair thick pale to yellow were bought in at 42s. per cwt.

**IPECACUANHA.**—Privately the market has been very firm, and fair sales have been made, mostly for export, at an advance of 3d. per lb. on the last auction rates of four weeks ago. At sale to-day 35 packages of *Rio* root were offered. Holders are very firm, and 18 bales sold at unchanged but slightly higher rates; fair partly stout annulated to good plump sound root realised from 5s. 8d. to 6s.; damages from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per lb. Of *Carthagena* root 4 bales were shown and bought in at 4s. 9d. to 5s. per lb. nominally.

**JALAP.**—A parcel of 20 bales fair small to bold *Vera Cruz* was shown to-day, and 6d. per lb. was refused for it, 8d. being the quotation for the lot.

**KINO.**—The auctions to-day included about 750 lbs. (in 7 cases) of good bright reddish, very astringent *African* kino. No bids at all were made for it, even when 6s. per lb. was suggested, and the whole parcel was bought in at nominal rates.

**KOLA** was in considerable supply to-day, 73 bags, mostly *African*, being offered; 2d. per lb. was refused for one lot, and the bulk was bought in; but a lot of good brown *West Indian* sold cheaply at 5d. per lb. Twenty bags of *San Domingo* kola, a new and very bold variety, were shown to-day, and bought in. This appears to be the first time that this kola has been seen in our markets. It is said that between three and four tons have lately been shipped to this country and the Continent.

**LIQUORICE.**—The market is steady, with a somewhat firmer tendency. Continental powdered root, decorticated, is quoted, according to quality, from 27s. to 35s. per cwt. Natural root at from 12s. 6d. to 19s. per cwt.

**MENTHOL.**—At auction to-day five cases good *Kobayashi* menthol were bought in at 9s. per lb. It appears that 8s. per lb. would be accepted.

**MUSK.**—Nineteen tins of first-pile *Tonquin* musk were offered to-day. Fine thin-skin pods were bought in at 80s. per cz. Seven tins very wormy, damp, "old-fashioned" pods sold at from 22s. to 43s. per oz., according to quality. Of third-pile pods, three tins low, wet skinny sold at 12s. to 13s. per oz.

**MYRRH.**—Quiet and without improvement. At auction to-day about 82 packages were offered, but only 8 casks of ordinary dusty garblings sold, at 35s. per cwt.

**NUX VOMICA.**—We have to report an arrival of 351 packages from Madras, and 5 from Amsterdam.

**OIL (CASTOR)** is decidedly dearer, prices for *French* oil being from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. higher all round. Medicinal in barrels on the spot is quoted at 23s. to 27s., in cases at 28s. 6d. to 30s. per cwt. For first pressings the prices are from 23s. to 24s. f.o.b., and for seconds from 22s. to 23s. per cwt., f.o.b. Marseilles. The reports as to the crop-

prospects are alarming, and a further rise is predicted. *East Indian* oil is also dearer, mainly on account of strong reports from India. Sales of first quality have been made at 3½d. per lb., and 3½d. is now required. The quotation for inferior seconds is 2½d.; for fair, 2¾d. per lb.

**OIL (COD-LIVER).**—We hear from Norway that although the quantity of really fine *Lofoten* oil in stock in Norway is not very large, it is yet, in the estimation of most holders, sufficient to fulfil the probable requirements of an average season. Up to the present exports from Norway have been extremely slow, and there are still no signs of an improvement in the local market, although it is said that in the northern towns of Norway, where dealers generally have more faith in the advance through the winter months, there is more stirring. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 3,916 barrels, against 4,250 barrels at the corresponding period of 1895. The quotations in Bergen are at present—for best non-congealing *Lofoten*, 160s., f.o.b.; ditto *Finnmarken*, 155s., f.o.b. Some of the principal holders in London ask from 180s. to 190s. per barrel for *Norwegian*, according to quality, and are confident that prices will show an upward movement. At to-day's auctions 67 casks of good bright *Norwegian* oil sold practically without reserve at 140s. per barrel. Another parcel, not offered under the same conditions, was bought in at 175s. per barrel.

**OILS (ESSENTIAL).**—The output of *Citronella* oil in Singapore in 1895 amounted to 400 cases of 36 21 oz. bottles. Among our imports this week have been 10 cases *Patchouli* oil from Singapore; 340 cases *Camphor* oil, of which 280 came direct from Kobe and the rest from Hamburg; and 81 packages *Citronella* oil. *Star-anise* oil is a little bit easier on the spot. During the week sales have been made at 9s 7½d. per lb. on the spot, but 9s. 9d. per lb. appears again to be the lowest price. For shipment there are various quotations; importers ask 8s. 8d., c.i.f., for August-October shipment, but second-hand owners would sell at 8s., c.i.f. It is reported that the London stock is below 100 cases, and it is also pointed out that of the upward moves that have taken place in this article in the autumn of the last three years the present one is the most advanced. In January of the present year the spot-price reached 10s. 6d. per lb. In the autumn of 1894 the price ran up to 9s. 9d. or 10s. per lb. *Cassia* oil steady, but unchanged. A small business has been done in 60-65-per-cent. oil at 7s., and in 70-75-per-cent. oil at 7s. 9d. per lb. For September-October shipment bids are solicited at 7s. 9d., c.i.f., for 75-80-per-cent. oil, which is too high to admit of business. At auction 9 cases were bought in; 50-per-cent. oil at 6s. 6d., 45-per-cent. (Hong-Kong analysis) at 5s. per lb. Four cases fair pale *Nutmeg* oil were bought in at 2¾d. per cz., one case *Java Kananga* oil at 1s. per lb. Seven pots *Bombay Rose* oil were bought in; "settlings" sold at 1½d. per oz. Ten cases pale refined *Japan camphor* oil, from Hamburg, were bought in at 50s. per cwt. *American Peppermint* oil HGH could probably still be had at 7s. 6d. per lb. on the spot. *Japanese* oil has sold at some recovery from the recent low rates, 2s. 10½d. per lb. c.i.f. being now asked for October-December steamer-shipment, while for 40-per-cent. oil 3s. 9d. per lb., October-December shipment, has been paid. At auction to-day the large quantity of 61 cases *Cocking's dementholised* peppermint oil (not re-weights) sold without reserve at from 3s. to 3s. 2d. per lb. The oil was imported in January, via U.S.A. Though very low, this price, considering the market-position, is thought satisfactory. Fifty-two quart-bottles of "*Cinnamon* oil" realised 6d. per oz. *Lime* oil (W.I.) firmly held at 5s. per lb. for good distilled or expressed. *Lemongrass* oil unaltered. At auction one or two parcels were bought in; on the spot 2d. to 2½d. per oz. is asked, and for October shipment 1½d. per oz., c.i.f., has been accepted. *Citronella* oil is somewhat firmer, with buyers, but no sellers, at 10½d. per lb., c.i.f., shipment to end of year. On the spot the price is 1s. 1d. per lb. for drums and 1s. 2d. per lb. for tins. *Eucalyptus* oil is in better demand. At auction 23 cases sold: good J. W. D. & Co., Adelaide, 42-per-cent. eucalyptol guaranteed, at from 1s. 1d. rising to 1s. 4d. per lb., and another parcel from Adelaide at 1s. 2½d. per lb. *Platypus* oil was bought in at 2s. 1d. per lb.

**OIL (OLIVE)** is extremely quiet, and prices in London show no alteration. In Liverpool, also, the demand for good quality oils, which was fairly brisk at the beginning of

the month, has fallen off again. Quotations run from 27l. to 28l. for *Syrian*, 27l. to 29l. for *Seville*, and 29l. to 30l. for *Malaga* oil. The accounts of the new crop in Spain are extremely unfavourable, and prices show an advancing tendency. In the Levant and Candia the prospects are, however, very good, while from Sicily no unfavourable news has so far been received. In Italy the drought and olive worm have caused some damage, and good rains are much wanted.

**OPIMUM** is extremely dull and depressed for all qualities. The only sales reported are a few small lots of *Soft shipping* and of *Persian* at about 1a's rates. Quotations are as follows:—*Tokat*, 11s. 6d. to 12s.; *Malatia*, 12s. 6d.; *Salonica* 12s. 6d. to 13s. *Smyrna* kinds, good to fine, 9s. to 10s.; *Druggists'* seconds, 8s. to 8s. 9d.; common to good *Constantinople* kinds, 9s. to 9s. 9d.; fine *Persian*, 11s. to 11s. 9d.; common to medium ditto, 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per lb. At auction to-day two cases of druggists' opium were bought in at 9s. 6d. per lb.

**ORRIS ROOT** tending higher. Ten bags *Italian* were bought in to-day, good pale *Florentine* at 80s., ordinary sorts at 65s. per cwt.; 83 packages of *Aden* root were bought in at 15s. to 25s. per cwt.

**PHENACETIN**.—Extremely neglected, at prices ranging from 5s. to 12s. per lb., according to brand and quantity. It is said that most of the makers who sell at low rates are at present making no profit whatever on the article.

**POTASH SALTS**.—*Chlorate* offers at 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb. on the spot, and at 4d. for delivery next year. *Bichromate* quiet, at 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb. *Yellow prussiate* appears to be selling somewhat more freely at the low rate of 6½d. per lb. for good quality English brands. *Saltpetre* unaltered, at 21s. 3d. to 22s. 3d. for British, and 20s. 3d. to 21s. 3d. for German refined, according to packing. The manufacturers of *Permanganate* have again raised their quotations by 5s. per cwt.—viz, from 65s. to 70s.—for small crystals. It is however, impossible to buy on the spot at these prices, available stuff being extremely scarce, and second-hand holders ask from 75s. to 77s. 6d. per cwt. At auction 5 casks of *Permanganate* were shown, but no bid could be obtained for them, even at 70s. per cwt. The crystals were small.

**QUICKSILVER**—Steady, at 6l. 12s. 6d. from the importers and 1 6l. 11s. 6d. to 6l. 12s. in second hand.

**QUININE** remained quiet during the early part of the week, but on Tuesday a sale of 10,000 oz. B. & S., or Brunswick second-hand bulk, was reported at the price running up to 10½d. per oz., showing a slightly easier tendency to-day. The market closes with no sellers below 10½d. It is stated that the deliveries of quinine from the London warehouses in September amounted to 110,000 oz., while the arrivals were practically nil. Some quinine made by a new French factory has recently been shown in the market. It is said to compare unfavourably with the standard brands, so far as appearance is concerned.

**RHUBARB** shows no improvement so far as this market is concerned, although it is reported that China is extremely firm and stands out for higher prices. A parcel of 81 cases, however, has just arrived. Of 164 packages at auction 29 sold at unchanged rates. *Shensi*, round fair coat, medium, partly pinky, partly grey fracture at 1s. 5d. per lb, subject; small to medium round, fair coat, and fracture, 1s. 7d. per lb. *Canton*, small to medium fair coat, one-third pinky, two-thirds grey fracture, flat, 1s.; medium round, fair coat, even grey fracture, round, 1s. 1d.; small round druggists' root, 11½d.; medium to bold, fair coat round pinky grey fracture, 11d. per lb. *High-dried*, medium to bold, fair coat, flat, wormy, dull fracture, 9½d. to 9¾d.; round and flat pickings, from 8¾d. to 9¾d., medium flat, dull coat, grey fracture, wormy, 7¾d. per lb.

**SAFFRON** is very firm at 31s. to 32s. per lb. for good Valencia. Concerning the new crop no reliable information is obtainable.

**SARSAPARILLA**.—Very firm; 13 bales grey *Jamaica* realised 1s. 9d. per lb. for good sound, and 1s. 8d. for damaged. Eleven serons *Honduras* sold at 1s. 1d. for sound and slightly damaged, and 1s. for dull, gnawed by vermin. For native *Jamaica* 1s. 3d. per lb. was asked, and 1 bale of damaged *Lima Jamaica* sold at 1s. per lb.

**SENEGA** remains firm, 1s. 3d. per lb. being asked for good quality on the spot. At auction to-day only three bales were shown, for which 1s. 3d. per lb. is required.

**SENNA**.—At to-day's sales 916 packages of new crop *Tinelly senna* were offered. They met with excellent competition, both on the part of the home and the export trade, and almost the whole sold at full to dearer prices for ordinary and medium grades, while for good qualities, though scarce, the prices realised were hardly so high in proportion. Very common damaged to small dull specky leaves realised ½d. to 1d.; ordinary small to medium dull to medium greenish, 1½d. to 2d.; fair medium greenish to good medium to bold ditto, 2½d. to 3½d.; fine to bold picked leaves, from 3½d. up to 7d. per lb. One hundred and twenty-five packages *Tinelly senna* have been received this week.

**SHELLAC**.—The week opened dull with sellers of *Orange TN* for October-December shipment at 76s. per cwt, c.i.f. terms. At auction 759 packages were offered, of which 414 sold without reserve with fair competition at firm prices to an advance of 1s. for second *Orange*, which brought from 71s. to 76s. for ordinary red livery blocky, and 77s. to 79s. for medium red free. Fine pale, partly cakey, *Orange* realised 84s. to 88s., rather dull and blocky lemon (octagon B) 92s.; fine to cakey ditto, 95s. to 97s. per cwt. *Garnet lac AC* is quoted on the spot at 84s.; good G brand sold at auction at 75s. per cwt. Market closes firm, with sales at 77s, c.i.f., for TN orange, November-January.

**SODA SALTS**.—*Nitrate* steady, at 8s. for ordinary and 8s. 3d. per cwt. for refined. *Acetate* very dull and slow of sale, at 14l. per ton, c.i.f. Hull. *Bicarbonate* steady but quiet, at 7l. 5s. for kegs and 6l. 15s. for casks, the Liverpool quotation for casks being 6l. 5s., f.o.b. *Soda crystals* quiet, at 42s. 6d. in London, 47s. 6d., f.o.b. Liverpool, and 42s. 6d., f.o.b. Tyne. *Chlorate* is somewhat more inquired for at the present low quotation of 5½d. to 5¾d. per lb. *Bichromate* unaltered, at 3½d. per lb. *Prussiate* shows a slightly improved demand at the current low quotation of 5½d. per lb. *Glauber salts* offer at 25s. per ton, and *Salt-cake*, 95 per cent, 22s. per ton. *Ammonia alkali*, 58 per cent., is still quoted at 67s. 6d. per ton in bags on rails, and 70s., f.o.b. Liverpool. *Hyposulphite* unaltered. The spot quotation is 6l. to 6l. 10s., according to packing; while on the Tyne 5l., f.o.b., is the price.

**SQUILL**.—Neglected, several parcels being bought at from 1½d. for ordinary to 3d. per lb. for good pale quality.

**SULPHUR**.—Rather firmer. Foreign flowers quoted at 115s., *Roll* at 110s., *Recovered* sulphur at 107s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b., and best thirds at 78s. per ton, c.i.f. terms.

**TEA**.—The Indian market has quite given way for medium teas, and on Monday and again on Wednesday Pekoes and broken Pekoes from 6d. to 1s. sold very irregularly. There was specially room for a drop in 7d. to 9d. Pekoes, and these are ½d. to ¾d. cheaper, but any standard fine quality or specially coloury leaf or broken fetches full prices. A small Ceylon sale on Tuesday went very dear for all but lowest grades. In view of the weakness of the Assam market, and with a bigger sale for next Tuesday, this week's Ceylon prices look dangerous.

**TRAGACANTH**.—The demand has further improved, but some holders have accepted prices slightly below the highest quotation recently given. Best first white *Persian* gum is still quoted at 14l. to 14l. 15s., seconds at 12l. 10s. to 13l. 10s., and thirds at 11l. to 12l. per cwt.

**TURNERIC**.—The demand for this article has improved lately. Sales of fair *Bengal* are reported at 7s. per cwt. on the spot, and there are now no further sellers below 7s. 6d. The quotation for good to fine yellow *Madras* finger remains from 11s. to 13s. per cwt. For fair *Cochin* finger 7s. to 8s. has been paid. At auction 114 bags bright yellow *Madras* finger, mixed with bulb, sold at 11s., and split *Cochin* bulbs at 5s. 9d. per cwt. To-day also several lots were bought in; for good *Madras* finger 12s. per cwt. is required.

**VALERIAN-ROOT**.—New crop *Belgian* to be delivered shortly offers at 28s. 6d. per cwt.; for good old root 26s. per cwt. is asked.

**VANILLA.**—About 125 tins, representing about 950 lbs., were offered to-day, and partly sold without much change. Good crystallised *Mauritius* and *Seychelles*, 7½ inches to 8 inches, 28s. 6d. to 29s.; 5½ inches to 7 inches, 23s. 6d. to 27s. 6d.; brown from 23s. 6d. down to 18s.; and common qualities at correspondingly lower rates.

**WAX (BEES).**—In large supply, but the only variety in steady demand at the auctions is the *Jamaica* kind, of which 32 packages sold readily at from 7l. 15s. for ordinary dark mixed to 8l. 5s. for good bright red mixed. *Mogadore* wax is very difficult of sale, and several parcels were bought in to-day. *Australian* wax was also bought in at from 6l. 5s. to 7l. 10s., and *Madagascar* at from 6l. 12s. 6d. to 6l. 15s. per cwt.

**WAX (JAPAN).**—This article has attracted a great deal of attention since our last report, and prices have advanced day by day. Sales have been made on the spot at from 40s. up to 45s. per cwt., and it is said for a small quantity 48s. 6d. has actually been paid, while another holder has refused 50s. per cwt. Inquiries have come from everywhere, and the stock on the spot is practically exhausted, at any rate in first hand. For arrival sales have been made at 39s. 6d. to 41s. per cwt. for October-November steamer shipment. The last-named quotation is the price to-day. It is not so very long ago that the article was entirely neglected, and could easily have been bought at 27s. to 28s. per cwt. on the spot. It is, however, not a drug of which people care to buy largely for speculation, as the rent and charges in London are extremely heavy.

#### The Heavy-chemical Market.

The heavy-chemical market still continues quiet, and the changes which have taken place during the past week in miscellaneous products have mostly been on the downward grade. Contracts over next year have been closed rather more freely, but for the most part at prices which are below those for existing contracts. General home demand for prompt is not quite so brisk, and manufacturers' stocks all round are fairly large. Reports from the Clyde, however, indicate a very steady business passing, with an improvement as regards export orders. On the Tyne things are very quiet, *Sulphur* being about the only product which shows any real activity. *Carbolic acid*, crude and crystals, is quiet. *Benzols* are a trifle easier, although nominally unchanged in value. *Sulphate of ammonia* is also unchanged, but is in somewhat better demand; 635 tons were exported from Leith during the past week. *Pitch* has a downward tendency. *Creosote* is nominally unchanged, but also tends downwards. There is not much doing in *Naphthas*, and prices are a shade lower; solvent wood is now quoted at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d. and miscible at 2s. 8d. per gallon. Crude and solvent naphthas are moderately steady and unaltered. *Aniline oil* and *salts* remain quiet. Business in *Bleaching-powder* is rather brisker, whilst *Caustic soda* is a trifle easier, but highest strengths continue in fairly good demand. *Soda crystals* and *Bicarbonate of soda* are quietly steady. *Ammonia alkali* firm. *Saltcake* firm and in good demand. *Recovered sulphur* scarce, with brisk request at 4l. 15s.

#### The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on September 30, says that Sudan sorts of *Gum acacia* are for the most part very firmly held, owners placing limits on their parcels far above the present value. One or two second hand lots offer a little cheaply, but even these are not pressed. *Castor oil*: Notwithstanding large arrivals by the *Logician* and *Strathgyle*, the market has been well sustained during the past week, and 2½d. is the price of good seconds Calcutta, with every prospect of better prices shortly. First-pressure French 2½d. to 2¾d., second-pressure French 2½d., and Madras good seconds 2½d. *Kola-nuts*: 22 bags have sold at 2½d., which may be considered the value of good dry. *Calabar beans* are held for 1½d. to 2¼d. *Guinea grains* in slow demand, at 17s. *Spermaceti*: *Chilian* is held for 1s. 3¾d. to 1s. 4d., but the demand is quiet. *Canary-seed* has experienced considerable movement during the week, parcels changing hands at prices ranging from 29s. 6d. to 31s. *Quillaria-bark* is in good demand, at 14l. to 15l. per ton. *Beeswax* is steady at late rates, *Chilian* ranging from

7l. 5s. to 7l. 15s., and sales of *Gambia*, W.C.A. at 6l. 15s. *Honeys* of all grades are steady, with but little or no amimation. *African ginger* is in poor request, at 19s. to 20s. *Sierra Leone chillies*: bright reds are more inquired for, at 35s. to 40s. as in quality.

#### The Hamburg Drug-market.

Our Hamburg correspondent writes on September 29:—“Our drug-market has continued quiet since last week. *Antimony* is steady at 37m. to 38m. per 100 kilos. *Citric acid* is again lower, and offering freely at 250m. to 255m. per 100 kilos. *Tartaric acid* also easier, at 245m. to 250m. per 100 kilos. *Borax* is unchanged and quiet, at 36m. per 100 kilos. *Balsam copaiba* is steady; *Maracaibo* is quoted at 330m. to 365m. per kilo. *Balsam Peru* continues quiet, at 14½m. per kilo. *Balsam tolu* unchanged, at 7m. per kilo. *Cassia lignea* firm, at 48m. for new crop, while fine old cassia realises 72m. to 73m. per 100 kilos. *Cinnamon* unchanged, and firm. *Camphor (refined)* does not show much business; prices vary from 330m. to 340m. per 100 kilos. *Cantharides* are decidedly firmer, at 330m. to 400m. per 100 kilos., according to quality. *Cumin-seed (Maltese)* is unchanged, at 48m. per 100 kilos. *Russian anise* quieter; new crop at 28n. per 100 kilos. *Lycopodium* is steadier, at 3m. to 3.10m. per kilo. *Glycerine* still unchanged. *Gum acacia* continues quiet, and without much demand. *Honey* shows a better demand; some *Chilian* has been sold at 40m. to 41m. per 100 kilos. *Menthol* quiet; shipment at 15m. to 16m. per kilo. *Galls (Chinese)* scarce and firm. *Castor oil* is very firm, and little offering; fresh oil of first pressing realises 48m. to 50n. per 100 kilos. *Rape oil* very firm and dearer, at 52½m. per 100 kilos. *Linseed oil* and refined *Cotton-seed oil* showed an upward tendency at the end of last week, but are again much quieter to-day. *Cod-liver oil* is unchanged, at 165m. to 168n. for non-congealing in barrels. White sweet seal oil is a little firmer. *Oils (essential)*.—*Cassia oil* firmer: 80–85 per cent. 19m., 48 per cent. 12½m., 42 per cent. 12m., 34–36 per cent. 10m. per kilo. *Peppermint oil* quiet: HGH at 7½m. to 8m., Todd at 7½m. per lb.; *Japanese oil* is firm and dearer, at 6m. to 6.20m. per kilo. *Citronella oil* unchanged, at 2.40m. per kilo. *Star-anise oil* has advanced, and is quoted to-day at 21½m. to 22m. per kilo. *Star anise seed* is also firmer, at 190m. to 195m. per 100 kilos. *Spirits of turpentine* are firmer, at 40½m. to 41m. per 100 kilos, delivered here. *Ergot of rye* shows an upward tendency, and quotes at 100m. to 105m. per 100 kilos. *Japan wax* is very firm and dearer; for spot 85m. is asked, shipment 80m. per 100 kilos. *Carnauba wax* is dull; grey is worth about 120n. to 130m., yellow 160m. to 175m. per 100 kilos.

#### The Smyrna Opium-market.

Our advices from Smyrna are to the effect that prices are generally lower. This is owing to the fact that, in view of the general political state of Turkey, the banks refuse to make any further advances on opium at present. The exchange is constantly falling, and as it is difficult to effect any dealings except on the basis of hard cash, a number of the needier holders are compelled to sell at a great sacrifice. Our correspondent, however, thinks that the bottom point has almost been reached, and that a shilling advance all round is quite possible as soon as any demand makes itself felt on the part of the consumers or of capitalists who consider opium a safe investment, for the stocks are small everywhere, and the crop has been notoriously deficient. The arrivals from the beginning of the season to September 19 were 1,300 cases, against 2,330 at the corresponding time of 1895. Sales during the week amount to 33 cases of the new crop, which sold at the parity of from 8s 9d. to 9s. per lb., f.o.b., according to quality. About 70 cases were rejected by the buyers, owing to insufficient quality.

THE STOMACH OF A NEW-BORN INFANT is very small, its capacity being only one or two fluid ounces, yet it is given bulky teas, soothing-syrups, and numerous other things at frequent intervals, all day long and all through the night, till death relieves it, or a doctor comes and stops such foolishness. I have no doubt heaven is full of little angels that have been sent there in this way.—Dr. L. D. Allen in “Medical Brief.”



### Memoranda for Correspondents.

*In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their view as concisely as possible.*

*Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.*

*The name and address of the writer should accompany all communications with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.*

### Characteristics of Vin. Aurantii, B.P.

SIR.—Your remarks as regards the method used and its want of reliability I will for the present accept as correct. As regards the particular sample of vin. aurantii referred to by me not containing 23 per cent. alcohol by volume you are in error, for the firm supplying such excellent orange-wine were informed of my results, and they replied by giving me the exact strength, which was somewhat stronger than my finding. I send you herewith the name of the firm, and I will write and ask them to vindicate the alcoholic strength of their excellent wine. It is a matter of great importance that orange-wine for quinine should be sound and free from ferments, which are in natural wines in many cases, and which add to rheumatic and neuralgic pains.

Yours faithfully,

September 25.

A READER. (179/52.)

[The method by which "A Reader" determined his percentages is Mr. Barker Smith's, which depends upon the increase of temperature observed when 5 volumes of water are mixed with 1 volume of the spirituous liquid, both being exactly at the same temperature at the time of mixing, the mixture being shaken five seconds, and the temperature read off in twenty seconds. The following is Mr. Barker Smith's abbreviated table for reckoning the percentages of alcohol, the degrees of heat being on Fahrenheit's scale:—

| Degrees of Heat. | Alcohol of Volume per cent. | Description. Under Proof. | Degrees of Heat. | Alcohol of Volume per cent. | Description. Over Proof. |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| -2               | 5                           | 91                        | 4.9              | 60                          | 5                        |
| -5               | 10                          | 82                        | 5.4              | 65                          | 14                       |
| -9               | 20                          | 65                        | 5.8              | 70                          | 22                       |
| 1.3              | 25                          | 56                        | 6.3              | 75                          | 31                       |
| 1.8              | 30                          | 48                        | 6.7              | 80                          | 40                       |
| 2.5              | 35                          | 39                        | 7.2              | 85                          | 49                       |
| 2.7              | 40                          | 30                        | 7.6              | 90                          | 57                       |
| 3.1              | 45                          | 21                        | 8.3              | 95                          | 67                       |
| 3.6              | 50                          | 12                        | 9.0              | 100                         | 75                       |
| 4.2              | 55                          | 3                         |                  |                             |                          |

The method is not devoid of interest, and we tried it in May last with the following results:—

1. Sample of rectified spirit, sp. gr. 0.8225 = 93.3 per cent. alcohol by volume. Two readings by Barker Smith's method (a) increased from 64.5° to 73° = 8.5° = 90 per cent. by volume; (b) increased from 64° to 73° = 9° = 93.5 per cent. by volume.

We may say that these percentages are not calculated from the above table, but from the complete one supplied with Mr. Barker Smith's apparatus. This "table is constructed from experiments made with the accompanying thermometer and five centims of water and alcohol in thin half-ounce bottle, whereby absolute alcohol stands at 14° instead of 9°. It is especially suitable for the weaker alcohols."

(2) Liq. Aconiti pro Tinctura (Fletcher).—(a) Two readings, 68° to 75.5°, mean difference 7.75° = 83 per cent. by volume; (b) by distillation, 81.5 per cent. by volume.

(3) Liq. Camph. Co (Fletcher).—(a) 63° to 73° and 67° to 72°, difference 5° = 57 per cent. by volume; (b) by distillation, 53.5 per cent. by volume.

(4) Liq. Hyoscyami (Fletcher).—(a) Three readings, 68.5° to 74°, 70° to 75°, and 70° to 74°, mean difference 4.8° = 55 per cent. by volume; (b) by distillation, 53.5.

(5) Liq. Scillæ (Fletcher).—(a) 68° to 72.5° and 68° to 72.5°, difference 4.5° = 53 per cent. by volume; (b) by distillation, 38.5 per cent. by volume.

These results show that with increase of solids in the liquids the method becomes unreliable. Consideration also shows that the increase in temperature must be influenced by other factors, such as the vessel in which the operation is conducted. Moreover, the existence of two different sets of calculating factors does not sustain confidence in the method. We are indebted to Mr. F. W. Fletcher for checking the distillation observations.—Ed. C. & D.]

SIR.—I have read with much interest the recent correspondence in your columns respecting the qualities of orange-wine, and, having had a long and practical experience on the subject, I venture to offer a few remarks, which may help to clear the ground of what seems to me some confusion and a want of further information. What are the characteristics of a good B.P. orange-wine?

1st. The alcoholic strength obtained by distillation ought not to be less than 23 per cent. of proof spirit, which is equivalent to about 13.5 per cent. by volume of absolute alcohol.

2nd. It ought to be brilliant, free from tannin and yeast-cells, and remain bright when mixed with quinine and citric acid.

3rd. It ought to possess the fine, delicate flavour of the Seville orange-peel; this property can only be gauged by the taste. I have met with samples of so-called orange-wine that were quite innocent of this flavour.

As regards the specific gravity and the quantity of dry extractive matter contained in the wine, I consider these misleading and of no importance, as they are governed by the quantity of free sugar left in the wine after fermentation. I would be glad to supply any who wish with specimens of a standard vin. aurantii.

Yours very truly,

BENJAMIN ROBINSON.

Pendleton, Manchester,  
September 29.

### Assistants in India.

SIR.—Will you allow me to state a few facts in reply to the letters that you have published from time to time from dissatisfied chemists' assistants in India? Your correspondent of September 12 states "that inducements are offered by agents on this side in the way of shorter hours, more money, and perhaps less work," and adds that these form part of the bright side only of the picture, and that the other side is studiously withheld from view.

*In respect to Shorter Hours.*—In this country the hours of a chemist's assistant are from 9 A.M. to 9 or 10 P.M., including Saturdays, and often Sundays; in India they are from 9 A.M. till 6.30 or 7 P.M., Saturdays 9 A.M. till 2 P.M., and Sundays off duty. As to feeling more inclined to go to bed after a day's duty than anything else, my experience, which ranged over twenty-five years in different parts of India, was very different. Except during the hot season I enjoyed outdoor exercise both mornings and evenings, and even now am in the enjoyment of perfect health. Many men whom I knew during my long residence in India enjoyed a similar experience. Of course much depends on one's constitution, and more on the habits of life.

*More Money.*—In this country the average salary of an assistant is too well known to need comments here. In India an assistant (junior) starts on an average salary of 170r. a month, which, taking the rupee at 1s. 2½d., is 10l. 5s. 5d., with an increase each year of 22r. per month for the first agreement. He has also furnished apartments found, and one tax only to pay—viz., 3 per cent. income-tax. Should he be "any good," as your correspondent puts it, he may, after the termination of his first agreement, make much better terms for himself. Living is very cheap in India when confined to the produce of the country. General expenses need not exceed those of living anywhere in England.

*Less Work.*—It is difficult to understand how an assistant has far more work in India than at home, even supposing that he did his best during the hours he is on duty. As regards the native compounders alluded to, who are "so unreliable, and give an endless amount of trouble and anxiety," they resemble the general run of dispensers in this country—viz., there are among them very good, bad,

and indifferent. I have in my mind, while writing, one of the first-named. He has served the firm with which I am connected for fifteen years, is universally respected and trusted, and there are many such.

In conclusion, Sir, if many of the disappointed assistants studied more how they might best serve their employers, instead of enlarging on imaginary grievances, they would better serve their own interest.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE CASE. (30/96.)

London, September 30.

[We have had the opportunity lately of speaking with several assistants who have been or are still engaged with firms in India, and their views coincide closely with the foregoing. The general opinion is that it is common to feel disappointment shortly after arrival, but as soon as one gets accustomed to the changed style of business and work, the ground for grumbling goes. The statement that renewed engagements are better than the first also accords with our experience. We know assistants of more than six years' experience in India who are receiving in rupee currency from 350% to 550% a year, and there are few owners of drug establishments in India who have not gone out as assistants and worked their way up.—ED. C. & D.]

#### Fighting the Dentists.

SIR—I think it is much to be regretted that chemists are entering upon a fight with dentists. We are ourselves fighting for freedom from unqualified competition, and I think we ought rather to offer to dentists our fullest sympathy with their fight (which is exactly similar to our own) than take up arms against them. Of course we all recognise the great service you have done to pharmacy in the past, through the agency of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and we quite recognise that you are undertaking the present fight entirely in the interests of chemists, and at great personal bother and inconvenience, but for my part I have no hesitation in saying that this is a step in the wrong direction. It is, in my opinion, very undesirable that the Pharmaceutical Society should be found fighting for freedom from unqualified competition, whilst THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is making an attack upon a profession with which our training has nothing to do, and for the discharge of the duties of which we have given no proof of qualification. The general public will not be able to draw a line of distinction between the actions of the Pharmaceutical Society and the actions of the C. & D., with the inevitable result that chemists will be looked upon more than ever as a class of men who fight for a monopoly in their own profession and as large a slice of the professions of other people as they can get. Hitherto our fight has been a perfectly legitimate one, and I think sympathy throughout the country is growing in our favour, but I do not consider this fight a fair one. I am not familiar with the Dentists Act, and do not know what weak points there may be in it, but I do contend that we ought not, of all men, to use microscopes in examining it. Dentists have severe examinations to go through, and I think they have a perfect right to demand protection from the State for proof of qualification exacted. I can quite understand manufacturers of patent medicines favouring this move, but who made it necessary for chemists to eke out a living by dabbling in half-a-dozen different trades or professions? I must also say that I fully sympathise with chemists who are forced to add to a scanty income by drawing teeth, &c., as a result of illegal competition, but to fight for what is morally wrong, if not actually illegal, because we suffer from what is in reality illegal, cannot be right. We ought to throw all our energy into an attempt to secure the drug business for the chemist, and leave the dentist to secure the whole practice of his profession. It is in the highest interests of humanity that the duties of each profession be discharged only by men skilled in that profession, and I believe that we cannot succeed better than by taking up this dignified attitude, and leaving the dentists to do the same.

Dumfries.

JAMES REID.

He Liked It.

SIR—I should like to say that the musical setting of "While the Tinctures Percolate" by Mr. H. J. Thomson, has

been voted by a few pharmaceutical friends most pleasing. I have no doubt hundreds of the craft, or their wives, daughters, or assistants, have been off to the piano to try the song, and have been delighted both with the air and the now enhanced effect of the humour. I hope we shall have something further of a similar kind. "Oh, they ain't a-goin' to tell" was very full of keen humour: will anyone set it to a catchy air?

Fraserburgh, September 29.

Yours truly,

JAS. A. ROBERTSON.

#### The Salisbury Cure.

SIR.—The Salisbury cure, so called, is a mode of treatment which we owe to Dr. Salisbury, of New York, founded on the theory (which the facts bear out) that the digestive organs of man will only satisfactorily deal with a small proportion of vegetable foods and cereals, and that the most physiologically economical diet is one containing twice as much flesh foods as other foods. The treatment of those whose digestive organs have been worn out and whose blood has been damaged by a vicious relationship between the two proportions of the two main divisions of foods, the treatment pursued by Dr. Salisbury consists in the exclusive use of flesh foods, accompanied by a considerable quantity of hot water. Then, as the digestive tone gradually returns and the blood resumes its normal condition, the flesh food is supplemented by the addition of other materials till the right proportion can be effectively digested. This is the so-called Salisbury cure, and its value in many cases of rheumatism, anæmia, and many digestive disorders is very great, though its range of application is probably wider than has hitherto been suspected.

Faithfully yours,

ARCHIBALD KEIGHTLEY.

62 Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, W.

September, 28.

[Dr. Keightley has apparently not seen the notes in our last issue; but we are pleased to have medical testimony corroborative of what was then stated.—ED. C. & D.]

#### Assistant Wanted.

This is a sketch-portrait of T. W. Taaffe, a chemist's assistant, whom the police are on the outlook for. He was last with Mr. J. E. Moore, chemist, Bristol, who alleges that he systematically robbed him for three months. Taaffe has several aliases. To Mr. Moore he was "George Talbot," but he has also called himself, we understand, H. Walton. He



gives false references, and in February last year we reported that he was wanted for robbery. It is desirable that his operations should be stopped, and that he should have the opportunity of stating his case to the magistrates. Will someone in the trade give him a situation? Even a brief space will serve the purpose.

## Booking fee, 2d.

SIR,—I fully endorse the remarks of "Provincial" on the above subject. The booking-fees charged to me on invoices under 10s. raises my contract fully 50 per cent. over what I am supposed to pay; and as the London houses pay the booking-fee on about an equal number of orders, the carriers actually receive double the contract rate, to say nothing of the extra 1d. per lb. for overweights. Surely, sir, there is room for competition here.

Yours, &c.,  
TOM WILLIAMSON.

SIR,—There seems to be reason in "Provincial's" remarks as to the illegality of this impost. Is it not a breach of the carriers' contract? They contract to deliver all parcels under limit free for a sum specified, and yet charge us this extra fee.

Yours, &c.,  
FAIR PLAY. (181/39.)

## MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

171/16. *Hants.*—Add a drachm of hypophosphorus acid to each gallon of the Parrish's syrup; mix, and set aside for a day or two. You may decant the clear syrup (the foots can be filtered through flannel or twill). The deposit is chiefly calcium sulphate, and no more of it is likely to form.

181/3. *Jumbo.*—Syr. Rib. Nigr. is syrup of black currant, and is made from the juice 2 parts and sugar 3 parts.

179/27. *Saccharin* wishes to know which is the Correct Formula for Erasmus Wilson's Hair-lotion, as he finds chemists to differ respecting it. His particular difficulty is as to whether liq. ammon. fort. 880 or liq. ammon. B.P. should be used. The following is the original prescription, approved by Sir Erasmus Wilson himself when the lotion had become popular:—

|                   |    |    |    |    |      |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|------|
| Ol. amygdal.      | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3j.  |
| Liq. ammon. fort. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3j.  |
| Spt. rosmarini    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3iv. |
| Aq. mellis..      | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3ij. |

M.

It is a common thing for chemists to speak of liq. ammon. fort. as "880," but the B.P. does not recognise that preparation, a solution of sp. gr. 0.891 being required. There is a difference of nearly 5 per cent.  $\text{NH}_3$  in the two solutions.

151/44. *A. J. S.*—Thanks for your suggestion. We give the pictures when we can get them.

176/65. *Indelible.*—Your Marking-ink is all right if it is properly made and used. We printed a formula for an aniline ink, which requires no heating, in our issue of March 28, page 472. Try it.

177/5. *Feryllydd.*—Pomade Divine:—

|                      |    |    |    |    |        |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Purified beef-marrow | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3xxiv. |
| Liquid storax        | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3ij.   |
| Cypress-wood         | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3ij.   |
| Powdered orris       | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3ij.   |
| Powdered cinnamon    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3j.    |
| Bruised cloves       | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3ss.   |
| Bruised nutmeg..     | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3ss.   |

Digest on a water-bath for six hours, then strain through flannel.

176/37. *Bloxham*—(1) Apart from the lungs not being fully inflated there is no difference in the density of a living and dead body, but soon after death the density begins to decrease owing to decomposition. (2) Unregistered Dental Practitioners' Association (Limited), 6 King Street, Oldham.

176/41. *J. F. F.*—Thanks for the specimens.

173/63. *W. J. W.*—We have the matter in view for the DIARY now in preparation. Similar information was given in the 1895 DIARY.

170/65. *Belgian Prescriber.*—We are obliged to you for the prescription, but it cannot, unfortunately, be reproduced by photography.

179/54. *C. J. E.*—You can buy a Leclanché cell for 2s. or less. Surely it is not worth hiring one.

179/48. *Giti.*—The method of making hair grey is a secret. Some hairdressers appear to dye the hair first, then bleach it with solution of soda and hydrogen peroxide. You might try that plan without the dyeing.

179/72. *Vulcanite.*—Litharge and glycerine Cement is very good, we understand, for uniting vulcanite and glass.

\* \* \* A few letters and a large number of replies to correspondents are held over until next week.

## INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor invites, on behalf of inquiring subscribers, postcard replies to the following:—

180/23. Who are the proprietors of Sequah's prairie flower and oil?

180/62. "Bronko," made by Bonnow Brothers: where obtainable?

176/49. Who are importers of colza oil?

173/71. Where can sweet or tasteless cayenne, used in colour-feeding canaries, be obtained?

182/45. Address of makers of stamped vaseline-tins?

182/58. Address of firms who deal in cheap electric sundries, such as lamps, motors, &c.

45/7. Ink and colour for Zuccato's patent papyrograph: where obtainable?

## Next Week.

Notices of Association and Society meetings will be inserted in this section free of charge if we receive intimation of such meetings by Wednesday of the week previous to that in which the meetings are to be held.

## Monday, October 5.

School of Pharmacy, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 3 P.M. Presentation of certificates and prizes by the President, and address to the students by Mr. R. Brudenell Carter, F.R.C.S.

## Wednesday, October 7.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Council meeting, 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 11 A.M.

Proprietary Articles Trade Association. Anti-cutting meeting in connection with the Grocery and Allied Trades Exhibition at Agricultural Hall, 3 P.M. Address by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones. Chairman, Sir William Pink, of Portsmouth.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. Council meeting, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M.

Brighton Junior Association of Pharmacy, Newberg Hall, Canon Place, at 9 P.M. Presidential address, and musical and social evening.

## Thursday, October 8.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 103 Great Russell Street, W.C., at 8.30 P.M. Presidential address by Mr. Charles Morley.